

Unprecedented protest in Moscow

MOSCOW (AP) — Scores of Soviets marched through downtown Moscow Sunday in a noisy and unprecedented protest to demand the release of political prisoners, including an Armenian activist held without charge for more than two months. The afternoon march along Gorky Street, a thoroughfare that leads to the Kremlin, was the first in the Soviet capital in recent memory. "This protest shows how our political freedoms are widening. Today we are making history," declared Yuri S. Skubko, a member of the Democratic Union, a fledgling opposition group that challenges the political monopoly of the Soviet Communist Party headed by Mikhail Gorbachev. A small army of at least 50 police officers stopped the protesters from advancing to Red Square, but allowed them to display banners and shout slogans across from the Moscow Soviet, the white-columned headquarters of city government. Sweating in the afternoon sun, the demonstrators, who numbered about 80, grouped near an equestrian statue to Yuri Dolgoruky, the Russian prince who was the founder of Moscow, and shouted in unison: "Freedom, freedom for political prisoners."

Jordan Times

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جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الراي

Top-level PLO team to visit Jordan

CAIRO (Petra) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee member Abdullah Al Hourani said in a statement carried by the Moroccan news agency (MAP) that there were positive developments in relations between the PLO and Jordan. These developments, Hourani said, followed Jordan's statement that it no longer insisted on a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to Middle East peace negotiations. Hourani said a top-level PLO delegation would shortly visit Jordan to pave the way for a subsequent visit by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat. He added that a joint statement could be issued during Arafat's visit if the PLO chairman's talks in Jordan were successful and produced agreement.

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King sends good wishes to Sweden

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday sent a cable of good wishes to King Carl Gustaf of Sweden on the occasion of his country's National Day. The King wished the Swedish monarch continued health and happiness and further progress and prosperity for the Swedish people. The King Sunday received a cable from the Bahraini emir, Sheikh Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa, as he was flying over Jordanian territory. The cable expressed the Bahraini leader's good wishes for the King and the Jordanian people. King Hussein received a similar cable from Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi who was flying over Jordanian territory (see page 5).

Iraqis attack Iranian bridge

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said Sunday its warplanes attacked a bridge in western Iran used by Tehran's military to supply the Gulf warfront, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) said. The agency said the Taleh Zang bridge, north of the western Iranian city of Dezful, was attacked at 11 a.m. (0700 GMT), and all planes returned safely to base. The railway line from the southwestern Iranian city of Ahvaz to Tehran runs through Taleh Zang but it was not clear if the Iraqi attack hit a road or rail bridge.

2 killed in Fatch clashes

BEIRUT (AP) — Palestinian fighters loyal to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat battled with mortars and machine guns against Syrian-backed dissidents Sunday in the Bourj Al Barajneh refugee camp. Police said two fighters were killed and one person wounded. They said the fighting between the Fatch factions, the main component of the PLO, and Saeed Mousa's Fatch-Uprising erupted shortly after midnight Saturday (2200 GMT) in the west Beirut camp.

Fahd honours Austrian president

JEDDAH (AP) — Austrian President Kurt Waldheim and King Fahd bin Abdul Aziz held talks Sunday after the monarch had awarded the European leader with Saudi Arabia's highest decoration. Diplomatic sources said the two leaders discussed efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war and the Arab-Israeli conflict, as well as boosting economic and political relations. Fahd Saturday hosted a dinner banquet for Waldheim at which he decorated the Austrian leader with the Cordon of King Abdul Aziz.

Iraqi leader receives Egyptian message

BAGHDAD (AP) — President Saddam Hussein received Egyptian presidential envoy Osama Al Baz Sunday, who gave him a message from President Hosni Mubarak. The Iraqi News Agency said the message and discussions between the two dealt with the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories, the general situation in the Arab World and bilateral issues. The agency did not elaborate. But observers pointed out it was significant that Mubarak's message followed his talks in Cairo Saturday with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

Saudi body gets prestigious award

RIYADH (AP) — The royal commission for Saudi Arabia's two main petrochemical industrial complexes has been named a co-winner of the prestigious Sakawa International Environmental Protection Prize, newspapers reported Sunday. Prince Abdullah bin Faisal bin Turki, the commission's secretary-general, said the award recognised the success of efforts to integrate industrial development with environmental protection in the two cities, Jubail and Yanbu. Newspapers said the \$50,000 prize will be shared with a United Nations environmental protection body. The Sakawa prize is considered the top international award for environmental protection and wildlife conservation.

Strike paralyses W. Bank, Gaza for third day

Occupied territories remain shut down

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinians set tyres ablaze and flew Palestinian flags in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Sunday on the third day of a general strike called to protest the Middle East trip of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

The West Bank, Gaza Strip and Arab Jerusalem were virtually shut down by the strike called by leaders of the six-month-old Palestinian uprising.

Underground leaflets noted June 5 was the 21st anniversary of the 1967 war and that the Lebanon war also began in June. "June with its anniversaries is the month to escalate resistance," said one leaflet by the Islamic Resistance Movement.

Demonstrations and clashes with soldiers were reported in at least a half-dozen towns or refugee camps in the occupied territories. No major incidents of violence were reported.

Israel army radio reported that Kach, an extremist group that espouses the expulsion of Palestinians from Israeli and the occupied territories, claimed responsibility for the murder of a 20-year-old Palestinian in the village of Shuyukh near Hebron Friday night.

Hospital officials in Hebron quoted relatives of the dead man as saying Jewish settlers entered the village, began beating up Palestinians and opened fire when villagers resisted.

Police said they suspected

Palestinians had started brush fires Saturday in the Beit Shemesb area west of Jerusalem. Last month fires south of Jerusalem caused \$4 million damage.

A few thousand Israelis marched in central Tel Aviv Saturday night to call for an end to Israeli occupation and the creation of a Palestinian state in the territories.

Police arrested eight protesters after clashes broke out when they asked a woman to remove a scarf displaying colours of the Palestinian flag, Israel Television said.

A U.S. official confirmed, meanwhile, that the American government had contacted Israeli foreign ministry officials about

reports that amounts as large as \$25,000 had been seized from Arab-Americans who entered the occupied territories.

The Jerusalem Post newspaper said Monday the money was seized in fear it would be used to support the uprising, but the Americans said the funds were earned from their businesses in America and were intended to help their families in the occupied territories.

The U.S. official, who spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity, said U.S. diplomats were asking Israel to ensure that money would be returned.

Shultz arrived in Israel Sunday, the third day of the general strike called for in an underground leaflet issued nine days ago. The leaflet accuses Shultz of trying to abort the uprising.

(Continued on page 5)

Shultz warns of new war, chides occupation

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, returning to Israel on his fourth mission this year, warned Sunday of a danger of a new Middle East war and criticised Israel's continued occupation of Arab territories.

In the gloomiest statement since he launched his peace plan in February, Shultz said at Tel Aviv airport: "Demographic and economic problems are becoming more serious."

"The proliferation of longer-range missiles and chemical weapons threatens to make future conflicts that much more destructive. Indeed the next

war."

He paused, then said: "Let us not have a next war."

Before meeting Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir at the start of a seven-hour visit, Shultz pointedly challenged the right-wing Israeli leader's refusal to exchange occupied territory for peace.

"The continued occupation of the West Bank and Gaza and the frustration of Palestinian rights is a dead-end street. The belief that this can continue is an illusion," he said.

His mission suffered another blow Sunday when Israel's supreme court upheld Shamir's decision to expel Mubarak Awad, a Palestinian American civil disobedience campaigner, from the occupied territories. The United States had urged Israel not to expel Awad.

Shultz told reporters he discussed the case with Shamir in talks he described as "very constructive, worthwhile and frank."

But Yossi Ahimeir, Shamir's spokesman, told reporters: "I don't see any change. The court has ruled. He will be deported. The prime minister's signature is valid."

After visiting Amman and Cairo Saturday, Shultz said the Arabs were unwilling to enter negotiations without an assurance that Israel would withdraw from the occupied territories. Shamir



Firefighters try to control a blaze in a forest area near Jerusalem. Israelis have accused Palestinians of starting forest fires as part of the six-month-old Palestinian uprising

(Continued on page 5)

Israeli court upholds Awad expulsion

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel's supreme court upheld an expulsion order against Palestinian-American activist Mubarak Awad Sunday in a new blow to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's Middle East peace mission.

Shultz, who began a seven-hour visit to Israel soon after the court ruling, had urged the occupation authorities not to voice Awad, 45, calling him a voice of non-violent moderation.

Israeli leaders accused Awad, a Jerusalem-born U.S. citizen dubbed the "Palestinian Gandhi" by friends, of inciting violent protests in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The Israeli court said it would delay the expulsion until next Sunday, apparently to give Awad time to appear in court for a civil suit against an Israeli newspaper.

After the ruling, Awad, in a grey suit and carrying an olive branch, was quickly escorted back to jail by four policemen, saying:



Mubarak Awad

"I am not disappointed. I will continue to fight for a Palestinian state wherever I am."

His American-born wife, Nancy Nye, said her husband had received no response to his request to meet Shultz.

A U.S. consulate spokesman in Jerusalem said: "The U.S. position remains the same. We hope that Mr. Awad will not be deported."

The court ruled that Awad, who was in Arab Jerusalem when Israel occupied it in 1967, "forfeited" the right to live in his land of birth by residing in the United States from 1970 to 1983 and taking U.S. citizenship.

Pravda assails Pakistan as Najibullah leaves Moscow

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda accused Pakistani President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq Sunday of inciting the Afghan Mujahideen to continue the Afghan war in violation of last April's Geneva accords.

The tough commentary was published as Afghan President Najibullah left Moscow for New York to attend a special United Nations General Assembly session on disarmament. He held talks with Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev Saturday.

Pravda accused Pakistan of moving Mujahideen bases from border areas to its interior in order to mislead U.N. monitoring some rebel groups in southern Afghanistan instead of disarming them.

"The interference is accompanied by insulting remarks against the legitimate government in Kabul," it said.

Gorbachev accused Pakistan Wednesday of trying to scuttle the peace accords, warning that further attacks against Soviet troops could damage talks on other regional conflicts.

Gorbachev said attacks continued after a Soviet troop withdrawal began last month even though Moscow had pledged to halt all combat operations.

Pravda said Moscow and Kabul were strictly complying with U.N.-mediated accords signed in Geneva in mid-April. The accords, under which the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan began May 15, called for an end to foreign interference.

"Obvious attempts at frustrating the Geneva accords are manifest," the newspaper said. "Moscow and Kabul cannot remain indifferent to Islamabad's violation of its obligations."

Pravda noted that a Soviet government statement issued last month had warned that Moscow would react to Pakistani "interference" if necessary.

The Geneva accords were signed by Afghanistan and Pakistan with the Soviet Union and the United States as guarantors.

GCC pledges to seek Gulf peace

JEDDAH (AP) — Foreign ministers of the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states pledged Sunday to intensify efforts for implementing a United Nations resolution demanding a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war.

A communique issued at the end of a two-day meeting of the GCC's ministerial council declared it had taken steps "it hopes will contribute to easing tension and lead to implementation of the resolution."

The council expressed the hope that Tehran would "respond seriously to the international efforts so that peace, security and stability prevail in the region in the interest of all parties."

The U.N. security council passed the resolution last July 20. Iraq said it would abide by the resolution if Iran did.

But Tehran has failed to give

an unequivocal response.

The communique noted: "The council renewed its determination to work with all force to secure implementation of the resolution and in this connection, the council will increase its contacts and intensify its efforts... to resort to all necessary steps to guarantee implementation of the resolution."

"The council reiterates its firm stand on the necessity for a peaceful solution... that preserves the legitimate interests of the two parties and opposes expansion of the area of hostilities," the communique said.

It praised Iraq for its recent military successes in recapturing territory seized by the Iranians and said this would help the international peace effort.

The meeting was intended to coordinate strategy during the

Arab summit that opens in Algiers Tuesday, with the Palestinian problem the main item on the agenda.

The communique expressed the hope the summit would achieve "comprehensive Arab reconciliation that erases conflicts and provides a comprehensive and constructive cooperation that places the supreme Arab interests above other considerations."

The communique pledged continued GCC "political and material support to help the (Palestinian) uprising attain its objectives," and expressed "pride in its valiant steadfastness."

The communique said that Saudi was delegated to sign an economic cooperation pact between the GCC and the European Economic Community (EEC) to facilitate EEC imports of GCC petrochemicals.

Britain denies planning hostage deal with Iran

LONDON (Agencies) — British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe denied charges Sunday that plans to settle a long-standing Iranian financial claim were part of a move to buy the release of British hostages in Lebanon.

"Our policy on hostages is absolutely clear — no deals," Howe told a television interviewer.

The British Foreign office earlier said it had no comment on a newspaper report that 18 Western hostages, including British church envoy Terry Waite, were being held in a former school building in south Beirut by Iranian-backed Hizbollah officers.

"The situation remains that we have no concrete evidence on the hostages' circumstances or whereabouts," a spokesman said.

A four-man Iranian delegation arrives in London Tuesday seeking costs to restore the Iranian embassy, which was burnt out in 1980 when British commandos stormed it to rescue hostages held by opponents of Tehran's revolutionary Islamic government.

The Foreign Office is offering almost £2 million (\$3.6 million) for repairs to the formerly elegant embassy, now a gutted shell.

It is also demanding about £1 million (\$1.8 million) for damage to its Tehran embassy during the revolutionary turmoil of 1979 and 1980.

Howe said last month's release of three French hostages, decry by the British press as capitulation to Iranian-backed militia,

would not change his government's thinking.

"We believe that it is in the best interests of British citizens around the world to have no truck with deals of any kind," he said.

But opposition Labour Member of Parliament David Young told journalists: "It now seems that the government is following the route of the Americans and the French in buying out hostages."

The Mail on Sunday newspaper reported the 18 foreign hostages kidnapped in Lebanon were being held in a former school and it carried a front-page photograph of a building that it said was the school.

The Mail said the hostages, including nine Americans and three Britons, were taken there during recent fighting between Hizbollah and Shi'ite Amal militiamen.

In another development, London's Guardian newspaper said the United States was holding talks with Hizbollah leaders in Lebanon and directly with Iranian representatives in Geneva in another effort to gain the release of the hostages.

The Mail on Sunday said the captives are being guarded at the school by high ranking Hizbollah officers.

It said Amal militiamen have infiltrated Hizbollah and quoted one Amal fighter as describing the school where it said the hostages are held.

China urges implementation of 598

BAGHDAD (AP) — A senior Chinese official was quoted here Sunday as calling for the immediate implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598, which calls for a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war.

The newspaper Al Thawra, quoted Li Shi Min, a visiting member of the politbureau of the Chinese Communist Party, as saying that "China supports the U.N. resolution and calls for its immediate implementation."

Al Thawra said Li conferred with Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan Sunday and discussed with him "different aspects of bilateral relations."

Al Thawra said Li informed Ramadan that China supports the implementation of the resolution in its entirety "as an appropriate basis for bringing about a just and comprehensive settlement of the Gulf war."

The Chinese delegation's visit coincides with criticism of China by Arab media in the Gulf for its refusal to impose an arms embargo on Iran for its failure to abide by the ceasefire resolution.

The visit also came a few days after the top U.S. military commander in the region said that Iran was about to complete a major new Chinese Silkworm missile complex in the Strait of Hormuz.

CBJ takes full control of foreign exchange rates

AMMAN (J.T.I) — All bankers and moneychangers in Jordan have to strictly abide by the daily foreign currency exchange rates set by the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) from Monday, according to a government decision announced Sunday.

The announcement, carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the decision was taken at a meeting of a special committee charged with studying measures related to foreign exchange regulations in the Kingdom.

The committee, which met under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, reviewed the monetary situation in the Kingdom and the convertibility of the Jordanian dinar, Petra said.

The committee decided that all banks dealing with foreign currency should treat foreign exchange transactions as an integral part of their normal banking functions, Petra said.

The committee also discussed draft measures expected to be implemented soon to consolidate and bolster the foreign currency reserves of the Kingdom, Petra said (See related story on page 6).

The committee will continue its discussions to put the draft measures in final form after agreeing on basic points.

Most Arab leaders expected at summit

ALGIERS (R) — Most of the leaders of the Arab World are expected in Algiers this week for a summit meeting intended to rally support for the six-month-old Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz is meanwhile touring the Middle East and pushing an American peace plan for the region which Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat will be asking the Arab leaders to reject.

Apart from financial and political support for the uprising the summit is expected to discuss the Iran-Iraq war and southern Lebanon, where Israel has carried out search-and-destroy missions and air strikes this year, diplomats say.

Although summits of the 21-member Arab League are often marked by boycotts over regional disputes, league officials say all heads of state except for the leaders of Oman and Somalia are expected to be in their places when the meeting opens Tuesday.

Arafat and other leaders of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) met in Tunis at the weekend to discuss the summit and how to step up support for the uprising in the occupied territories.

Bassam Abu Sharif, an Arafat adviser, told Reuters that the PLO leader remained convinced that Shultz's current Middle East tour, his fourth this year, would fail unless Washington's peace plan was revised to offer the prospect of an independent Palestinian state.

But diplomats said no Arab League state had yet clearly given its verdict on the U.S. plan and the PLO would be under pressure to make its criticism of U.S. policy less specific.

Following a renewal of diplomatic ties between Algeria and Morocco last month, the first summit among five North African states could also be held during or after the main Algiers meeting.

A leader's meeting of Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Libya and Mauritania could be a first step towards creating a Maghreb common market, according to a senior Tunisian diplomat.

Algerian Information Minister Bashir Ruwayes said Sunday that the summit would also discuss the political developments since last November's extraordinary summit held in Amman, the Iran-Iraq war and inter-Arab relations.

Socialists seen just ahead in French general elections

PARIS (R) — President Francois Mitterrand's Socialists appeared to be heading for a narrow general election victory and a slim parliamentary majority after the first round vote Sunday, computer predictions said.

With abstentions at a record high, the Socialists polled far fewer votes than expected, confounding forecasts of a landslide following Mitterrand's reelection last month.

The Socialists were running neck-and-neck with the centrist coalition put together by the former government. But they were likely to benefit from an electoral system which will pit rightist candidates against each other as well as Socialists in the second round run-off June 12.

The Sofres private polling institute predicted the Socialists and their allies would win 290-310 seats in the 577-seat National Assembly. The centre-right coalition, which had a six-seat majority in the old assembly, was given 250-270.

The first projections, issued as polling booths closed, belied the opinion polls which had suggested that the Socialists would have a majority of up to 100 seats.

At the political extremes, both the Communist Party and the far right National Front suffered in seats due to the majority voting system which penalises smaller parties.

The front, headed by anti-immigrant campaigner Jean-Marie Le Pen, was predicted to fall to below two seats.

The Communists were seen falling from 35 seats to around 10. But they increased their share of the vote.

A second round of polling will be held for all seats where no candidate has won more than 50 per cent of the vote outright.

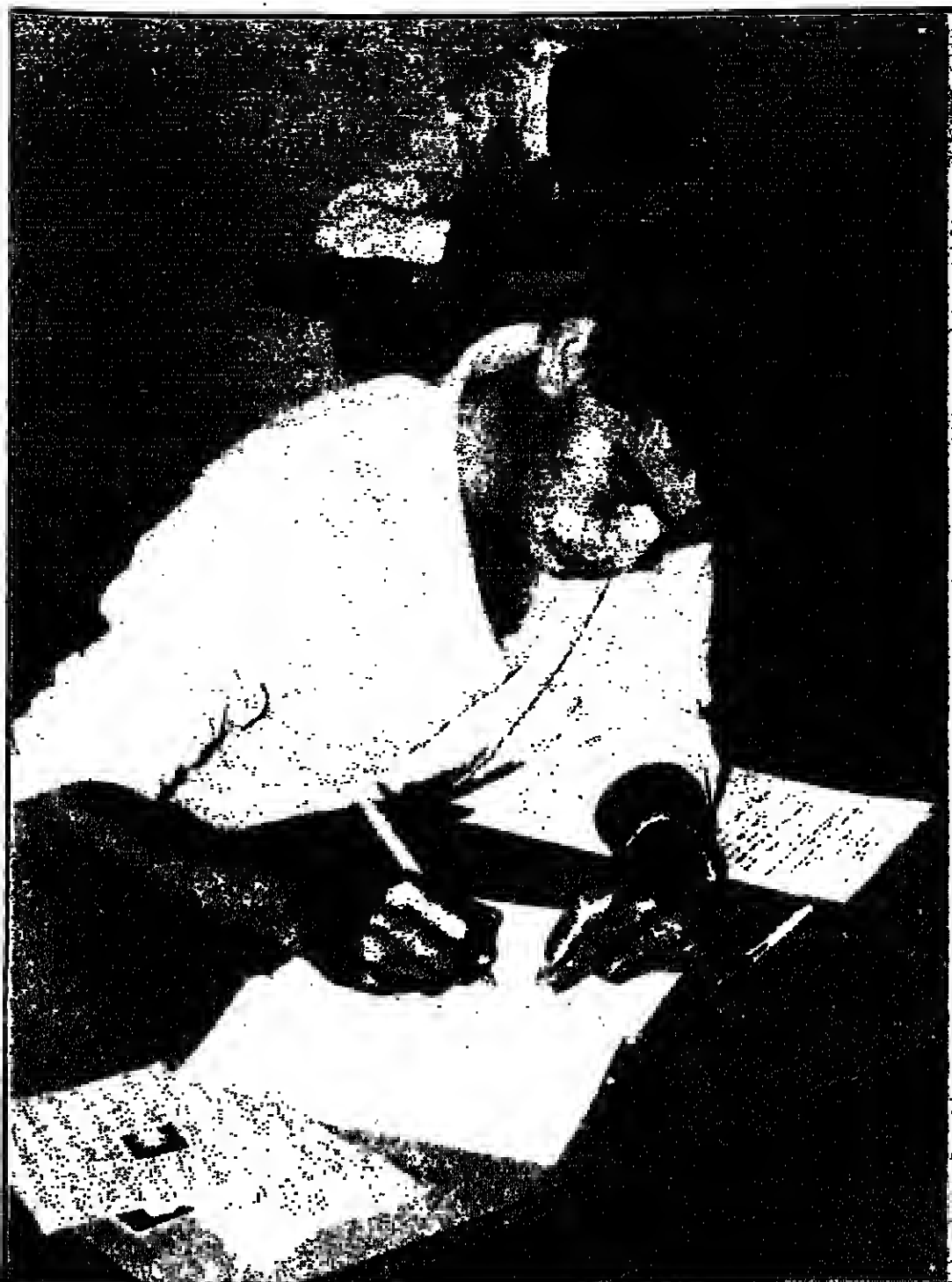
Moscow wants to reduce East-West troop strengths

BONN (R) — The Soviet Union wants troop strengths to be cut to a level at which neither East nor West could mount an attack, according to the head of the semi-official Soviet news agency Novosti.

Valentin Falin told the West German newspaper Berliner Morgenpost in an interview released ahead of publication Monday that Moscow wanted to exchange information with Washington over troop strengths which could be checked by mutual inspections.

"The aim is to reduce the troop strengths by 500,000 men," he said. "That would be a great step forward."

Falin, a former Soviet ambassador to Bonn, said: "We really want to achieve structural 'attack-incapability' for both sides."



Sitting for the General Certificate of Education (Tawjihi) exam — Palestinian students in the occupied Arab territories have grim prospects of going on to university

'Occupation authorities should take hands off Palestinian universities'

This is the last part of a six part series in which the exercise of academic freedoms in Palestinian universities of the occupied Arab territories is discussed. This study was presented to UNESCO at its 127th session, by Father Edouard Bone.

Recommendations

At the end of this enquiry into academic freedom in the Palestinian universities, the Rapporteur would like to formulate, from a deliberately constructive viewpoint, a number of recommendations suitable, so it is hoped, for improving the functioning of those institutions. They are centred on five main objectives: reducing the causes of friction with the occupation authorities; ensuring the better internal functioning of the universities; giving encouragement and lending support to the efforts of the Palestinian universities in achieving their academic goal; fostering mutual respect and understanding between the Jew-

ish and Palestinian communities; raising awareness in the international academic community.

Reducing the causes of friction

Any interference by the political and military occupation authorities in the life of the universities should be avoided by making the academic authorities alone correspondingly responsible for handling any possible agitation on the campuses. A "low profile" and a "hands off policy" on the part of the military authorities would seem likely to reduce tension. This would elicit and make possible greater autonomy and a more dispassionate control of the situation by the university authorities.

Any measures for the closing of institutions which might be required should as far as possible be left to the university authorities alone, as should such sanctions as reprimand, suspension, refusal of admission to examinations, expulsion, etc., against students objectively at fault on account either of academic insufficiency or conduct incompatible with the status of a university student.

Ensuring the better internal functioning of the universities

Everything possible should be done to ensure the calmer and academically more regular functioning of the universities, in order to attenuate as far as possible the feeling of disappointment and frustration experienced by university students; they should be provided with suitable curricula and training opportunities like-

ly to offer them better employment prospects on the West Bank and in Gaza.

Efforts should be directed at the same time towards developing those sectors of the economy likely to settle the populations concerned in their territories, feed them and satisfy them. This refers particularly to the agricultural sector and software industries, certain openings in the field of tourism, public health and management.

The academic authorities must constantly strive to avoid the "politicization" of campus life. This does not imply detracting from their mission of inculcating a sense of civic responsibility, or even political, in the true and lofty sense of the term. Various strategies have already been implemented in different institutions, the varying impact of which should be measured in

terms of the relative density and the frequency of "incidents".

Assistance should be provided to the academic authorities in their university financing efforts, enabling them to maintain the university's independence vis-à-vis too strongly political liberation movements. In order to reduce, as far as possible, charges of collaboration with subversion and terrorism and, consequently, the repressive measures which could be associated therewith.

The Israeli authorities can justifiably be asked to pursue, as a logical follow-up to their initially favourable attitude when the creation of the Palestinian universities was authorised, a policy of positive cooperation in their development, particularly by adopting an open-minded and sympathetic attitude to plans for geographical expansion and logistic support.

Giving encouragement and positive support to the efforts of the universities

The search must be resolutely pursued for satisfactory solutions, worthy of the university, with regard to the availability of intellectual resources, particularly through access to books and periodicals, including those in the Arabic language, and the abolition of censorship, which verges upon the ethically unjustifiable.

On the strictly academic level, the endeavours and authority of the Council for Higher Education in its role of co-ordinating the universities should be strengthened. Its credit would be enhanced by being more widely recognised and extended to new areas of initiative.

There should be negotiations over observance of the international conventions which relate to tax exemption on educational materials.

The function of the Council for Higher Education could be broadened or combined with the existence of a Monitoring Body for the universities of the West Bank and Gaza, assisted by a UNESCO liaison officer.

The presence of foreign lecturers on the university campuses could be beneficial: carefully selected, particularly for their academic quality and their political non-commitment, they could help to balance and de-politicise the university community, especially during periods of crisis and tension.

It is recommended that generous investment be made in the planned Open University which is at present on the stocks. This may justifiably be regarded as a particularly original instrument, which could reach out across political and cultural as well as merely geographical distances in an area where there are too many tensions and barriers of all kinds; it would be a less vulnerable instrument too, the greater stability of which would make it possible to correct or make up for possible handicaps suffered by the traditional universities in the way they function. A judicious choice of useful and promising possibilities should no doubt be made. Those at present in charge are already showing active concern for this matter.

Television could perhaps develop more explicitly its particular role of lifelong education and endeavour to complement the work of existing universities in any area of education where they are currently deficient or awaiting developments.

Fostering mutual respect and better understanding between the Jewish and Palestinian communities through the university

In addition to seeking to facilitate the functioning of the university in a world where a definitive status satisfactory for all has yet to be found, the university could be used to prepare and achieve such an ideal as the fruit of the efforts of all concerned. Science and culture have that special power of being able to create and weld together communities transcending the diversities and antagonisms of history and of peoples. They thus have a duty to work positively in that direction.

The idea of bringing together elites independently of any political options could thus be envisaged: a small "college" could be set up with some 300 students and some 50 faculty members, where each student — whether Palestinian or Jew — would encourage each other student to be fully himself, in an endeavour to achieve upward-aspiring convergence and deeply-rooted tolerance. The College would aim to be a bi-national bank for exchanges at a very academic level, open to students from both cultures. Four or five of the great traditional foreign universities such as Poliers, Oxford, Louvain, Vanderbilt and Sherbrooke, for example, would be invited to extend their patronage to this venture.

The college, distinguished for its standards of quality and the level of its training, a place of

exemplary education and research, would be essentially a forum for exchange: it would aim to train transnational witnesses, to be a place where young Israelis and Palestinians could recognise one another, regardless of any other affiliation.

Peace can only be achieved through culture and the liberal arts: the balance between departments would therefore have to be defined in accordance with the pure, upward-striving nature of the idea behind it, requiring positive components of culture and spirituality: comparative literature, general history, political science, pure mathematics and philosophy, abandoning technology and specialisations such as archaeology, Islamic studies, etc., which are to be found elsewhere in the Near and Middle East.

This project lies well and truly within the scope of UNESCO's vocation.

Raising awareness in the international academic community and through its world public opinion

Experience has shown that too few university colleagues, presidents, rectors or teachers are aware of the difficulties encountered by the Palestinian academic institutions in functioning and even merely existing. Universities throughout the world should be informed through the International Association of Universities, the Arab universities and the International Federation of Catholic Universities, by the organising of various missions, judiciously composed and conducted, of university teachers or administrators, under the aegis of UNESCO.

Missions such as these would have a three-fold purpose: (a) to ensure better comprehension of the problems and provide the international university community with objective, reliable information; (b) to influence world public opinion and particularly public opinion in Israel; (c) in practical terms, to provide more generous and effective academic assistance to Palestinian universities in difficulty.

With the same end in view, an international symposium could be organised, completely apolitical and of a very high academic standard, which could bring together some 20 Palestinian university teachers or principals and 50 or more leading academics from around the world. The symposium, financed by a benefactor interested in the cause of the Palestinian universities, could be convened in a strictly uncommitted country and would focus on a theme carefully defined in accordance with the scientific interests of the participants. In addition to immediate results expected from the papers presented and the advancement of knowledge in this field, the contacts established would foster greater awareness of, and regard for, the Palestinian universities; they might encourage exchanges, joint ventures and various forms of assistance and, more generally, a freer flow of ideas and human resources between the Palestinian universities and the rest of the world.

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07:30 Newsdesk	Top 20 22:00 Outlook, opening with
08:00 Morning Show	22:00 News 22:30 Outlook contd.
10:00 News Summary	22:45 Peaches' Choice 23:00 World
10:05 Just a Minute	Newsweek 23:00 Sports Roundup
11:00 Good Vibrations	23:05 24 Hours: News Summary
11:30 Readings	23:10 Newsweek 23:30 Multitrack 1
12:00 News Summary	Top 20 22:00 Outlook, opening with
12:05 Pop Session	22:00 News 22:30 Outlook contd.
13:00 News Summary	22:45 Peaches' Choice 23:00 World
13:05 Pop Session Contd.	Newsweek 23:00 Sports Roundup
14:00 News Bulletin	23:05 24 Hours: News Summary
14:30 Special Feature	23:10 Newsweek 23:30 Multitrack 1
15:00 Concert Hour	Top 20 22:00 Outlook, opening with
16:00 News Summary	22:00 News 22:30 Outlook contd.
16:05 Instrumental	22:45 Peaches' Choice 23:00 World
16:30 Old Favourites	Newsweek 23:00 Sports Roundup
17:00 Young Sound	23:05 24 Hours: News Summary
17:30 Pop Session	23:10 Newsweek 23:30 Multitrack 1
18:00 News Summary	Top 20 22:00 Outlook, opening with
18:05 Sports Roundup	22:00 News 22:30 Outlook contd.
21:05 Evening Show Contd.	22:45 Peaches' Choice 23:00 World
22:00 News Summary	Newsweek 23:00 Sports Roundup
22:05 Evening Show Continued	23:05 24 Hours: News Summary
23:00 News Summary	23:10 Newsweek 23:30 Multitrack 1
23:05 Evening Show Continued	Top 20 22:00 Outlook, opening with
24:00 Close Down	22:00 News 22:30 Outlook contd.

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1261 & SW 7201, 9695, 11720, 11925 and 1520 Hz.

07:00 News 07:10 Newsline 07:30 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 Newsline 08:30 VOA Morning 17:00 News 17:10 Newsline 17:30 Music USA 18:00 News 18:10 Focus 18:30 Special English News & Features 19:00 News 19:10 Newsline 19:30 Magazine Show 20:00 News 20:10 Focus 20:30 Special English News & Features 21:00 News 21:10 Newsline 21:30 Music USA 22:00 News & Editorial 22:15 Music USA 22:30 News 23:00 News World Report

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS	times over 100 years old. Also houses from Madaba and Jerash (both 19th century). The Roman Theatre, Amman Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. to 5 p.m. Year-round Tel. 661760
* Permanent book exhibition, at Tower Building, Jabbal Amman, 3rd Circle	Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabbal Al Qal'a (Circus) Hill. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays: 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
* A permanent exhibition of plastic art by 27 Arab artists at the Plaza Hotel	Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muntazah, Jabbal Lungeibeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. and 3.40 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.
* An art exhibition by the Soviet Cultural Centre "Jordan Through Soviet Camera" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 10.00 a.m.	Martyrs' Memorial Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 675241.
* An art exhibition at Nur Al Din School in Zarqa.	

FILMS

* A British Film Week: "The Mission" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 8.40 p.m.	St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Amman. Tel. 623590.
* A school performance by the Amman National School, 11.00 a.m. at the Studio Theatre at the Royal Cultural Centre.	Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Lungeibeh. Tel. 673440.

CHURCHES

* "Babyn Rings" at 8.40 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.	De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Hussein. Tel. 661757.
* A school performance by the Amman National School, 11.00 a.m. at the Studio Theatre at the Royal Cultural Centre.	Terrasanta Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Lungeibeh, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5.30 p.m. Tel. 622360.
	Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali. Tel. 623541.
	Anglican Church (Church of the Resurrection) Larama. Tel. 625363, chaplain's residence: Tel. 611391.
	Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh. Tel. 713331.
	Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh. Tel. 713331.
	St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh. Tel. 717751.
	Amman International Church (Interdenominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shamsuni. Tel. 675241.
	Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) Amman, Arabic Service: Sunday 7 p.m. Rev. N. Sami 811295.
	Reformed Congregation (meets at the Good Shepherd's Church) Interdenominational: English Service: Saturday 8.30 p.m. Tel. 822000, Rev. Yeh.
	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormon) Tel. 818417, 821264.

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum" Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre, open all week 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. Closed on Friday.	Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 661026
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also houses the excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabbal Al Qal'a (Circus) Hill. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays: 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.	American Centre 643771
	American Centre library 641738
	British Council 636147
	French Cultural Centre 637089
	Goethe Institute 641963
	Soviet Cultural Centre 643216
	Spanish Cultural Centre 620499
	Turkish Cultural Centre 636777
	Haya Arts Centre 667195
	Hussein Youth City 667181b
	Y.W.C.A. 641793
	Y.W.M.C.A. 642251
	Amman Municipal Library 637111
	Univ. of Jordan Library 843555

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

14:30 Bahrain (HF)	14:30 Bahrain (HF)
15:30 Kuwait (KU)	15:30 Kuwait (KU)
01:30 Paris (AF)	01:30 Paris (AF)

PRAYER TIMES

03:46 Fajr	03:46 Fajr
05:22 Sunrise (Summer) Dhuha	05:22 Sunrise (Summer) Dhuha
12:34 Noon	12:34 Noon
16:30 Asr	16:30 Asr
17:46 Maghrib	17:46 Maghrib
21:22 Isha	21:22 Isha

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

10:20 Samara (LH)	10:20 Samara (LH)
11:00 Istanbul, Ankara (TK)	11:00 Istanbul, Ankara (TK)
11:20 Muscat, Bahrain (GF)	11:20 Muscat, Bahrain (GF)
11:30 Cairo (MS)	11:30 Cairo (MS)
11:35 Kuwait (KU)	11:35 Kuwait (KU)
11:45 Beirut (ME)	11:45 Beirut (ME)
12:30 Baghdad (AF)	12:30 Baghdad (AF)

DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

07:45 Amman (RJ)	07:45 Amman (RJ)
11:45 Bucharest (RJ)	11:45 Bucharest (RJ)
12:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)	12:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)
12:30 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)	12:30 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
12:45 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)	12:45 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local selling rates per f.s.	Local selling rates per f.s.
Belgian franc (Fr 100) 95.11	Belgian franc (Fr 100) 95.11
Dutch guilder 177.22	Dutch guilder 177.22
French franc 58.99	French franc 58.99
Italian lire (Lit 100) 26.75	Italian lire (Lit 100) 26.75
Japanese yen (Yen 100) 272.25	Japanese yen (Yen 100) 272.25
Swedish krona 37.98	Swedish krona 37.98
Swiss franc 230.44	Swiss franc 230.44
U.S. dollar 148.63	U.S. dollar 148.63
West German mark 198.79	West German mark 198.79

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

00:30 Cairo, London (BA)	00:30 Cairo, London (BA)
09:15 Beirut (MEA)	09:15 Beirut (MEA)
11:10 Frankfurt (LH)	11:10 Frankfurt (LH)
14:00 Ankara, Istanbul (TK)	14:00 Ankara, Istanbul (TK)
14:05 Cairo (MS)	14:05 Cairo (MS)

EMERGENCIES

Amman government 801228	AMMAN:
Amman Civil Defence 198, 199	Dr. Kamal Mazzawi 804788
Civil Defence (Hd) 27129, 27131	Dr. Sabah Mousa Al-Baid 649028
Civil Defence (Hd) 77733	Dr. Ihsan Mustafa 774224
Civil Defence Den Alla 5736	Dr. Zaid Zaid 636591
Ambulance 193, 77511	Firas pharmacy 661912
Amman down town fire brigade 198	Firas pharmacy 778336
Fire and 63051	Al Asma pharmacy 637355
Blood Bank 77365	Nasrallah pharmacy 623672
Civil Defence rescue 66111	Al Salami pharmacy 636730
Fire headquarters 62296, 3	Yacoub pharmacy 644845
Police rescue 192, 82111, 63772	Shamsuni pharmacy 675661
Police headquarters 630141	
Traffic police 306301	
Electric Power Co. 626881, 626881	
Municipal water complaints 771258	
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 1681533161	

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre 813813-32	IRBID:
Khalid Maternity, J. Amm 642816	Dr. Ahmad Najjar 1
Makki Maternity, J. Amm 642816	Al Shuraf pharmacy 278225
Jabbal Amman Maternity 642816	
Mulhas, J. Amman 636140	
Palestine, Shamsuni 664172	
Shmsuni Hospital 669131	
University Hospital 845645	
Al-Ahsan Hospital 667131	
The Islamic, Abdali 666127	
Al-Ahli, Abdali 666164	
Italian, Al-Muhajreh 777111	
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111	
Arms, Marka 801611	
Queen Alia Hospital 1682300	
Amal Hospital 674555	

GENERAL

Jordan Television 773111-19	
Radio Jordan 774111-19	
Ministry of Tourism 66311	
Hotel complaints 664112	
Price complaints 661178	
Telephone information 12	
Arms and Middle East calls 10	
Overseas calls 17	
Repair service 11	

MARKET PRICES

Upper-lower price in fils per kg.	
Apple (French) 401/301	Lemon (green) 280/220
Banana 321/260	Malina 90/60
Banana (Jamaican) 321/220	Marrow 180/150
Beans 350/301	Onion (dry) 100/60
Beans (broad) 350/301	Oranges (local) 320/280
Cabbage 140/101	Okra 600/501
Carrot 140/101	Peaches 750/650
Cauliflower 281/151	Peas 220/201
Cherry (green) 550/450	Pepper (hot) 320/280
Cucumbers 180/150	Pepper (sweet) 350/301
Dates (2 kg) 7/7	Potato 181/141
Eggplant (large) 130/100	Strawberry 1300/1000
Eggplant (small) 180/120	Tomatoes 140/100
Garlic 300/250	Vine leaves 140/100
Lemon (yellow) 300/250	Watermelon 350/250
	Sweetmelon 250/200

سنة ١٤٠٩ هـ

Seminar on education of handicapped opens

IRBID (Petra) — Chief Chamberlain, Prince Ra'd Ibo Zaid opened a seminar on special education for handicapped children at the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) in Irbid, Sunday, by calling on concerned authorities to carry out surveys to determine the volume of the problem of the handicapped in Jordan.

Prince Ra'd said special education requires the availability of sufficient qualified staff and special facilities to offer proper caring for the handicapped persons at an early stage. "Special attention ought to be given to encourage the handicapped to overcome psychological and social barriers, so that they get involved in society and exercise different types of sports and physical training for their own benefit."

He called on the concerned authorities to transfer part of their attention in dealing with the

problem, to the rural regions of the country which account for 60 per cent of the total number of handicapped.

Prince Ra'd said that concerned Jordanian institutions and social development centres have accumulated sufficient statistics which can help in a serious endeavour to deal with the problem.

A U.N. social development centre in Jordan has allocated \$200,000 for setting up a special laboratory at the University of Jordan to conduct studies on infants soon after their delivery to determine if they suffer from hereditary diseases, Prince Ra'd noted.

Participants in the meeting, organised by the University Women's Club, discussed a number of subjects related to special education and the work of rehabilitation centres in the Kingdom.

Haj Hassan, Egyptian labour team hold talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Telecommunications Khaled Al Haj Hassan met in his office Sunday with a delegation representing the Federation of Egyptian Labour Unions and discussed cooperation between Jordan and Egypt in air transport.

Prospects to further develop existing cooperation between Royal Jordanian and Egypt Air, exchanges of expertise at the government and union levels and

other related issues were discussed at the meeting.

Haj Hassan welcomed cooperation and coordination between the two countries in air transport and said that bilateral relations are witnessing development in all fields: general and air transport, and civil aviation in particular.

Officials from the Federation of Jordanian Labour Unions were present at the meeting along with ministry officials.

Ministry issues guidebook on car fuel consumption

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources has issued a "citizen guidebook" on fuel consumption by all types of vehicles operating in the country.

The guidebook also points out that nearly 39 per cent of the total amount of imported oil is being consumed by means of transport and that some 12 per cent of this amount could be saved by following simple directions and guidelines related to the choice of the

proper fuel-saving cars.

At the same time, the ministry Sunday published in the local press notices urging members of the public to refrain from using their cars for short distances and to avoid roads which are normally congested with traffic.

It urged people to opt for public transport such as buses and service taxis which would reduce the congestion on roads and save fuel.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

STUDENTS GET AWARDS: Deputising for Deputy Prime Minister and Education Minister Thouqan Hindawi, Education Ministry Secretary General Munther Al Masri Sunday presented awards to 90 students who won in the scientific, cultural and art competitions, organised by the Education Ministry's Curricular Activities Department in Amman.

FIELD TOURS: Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud has set up a work team comprising agricultural engineers to conduct field tours of different provinces. The team will ensure that farmers are abiding by conditions set by the Ministry of Agriculture for the implementation of the agricultural patterns system.

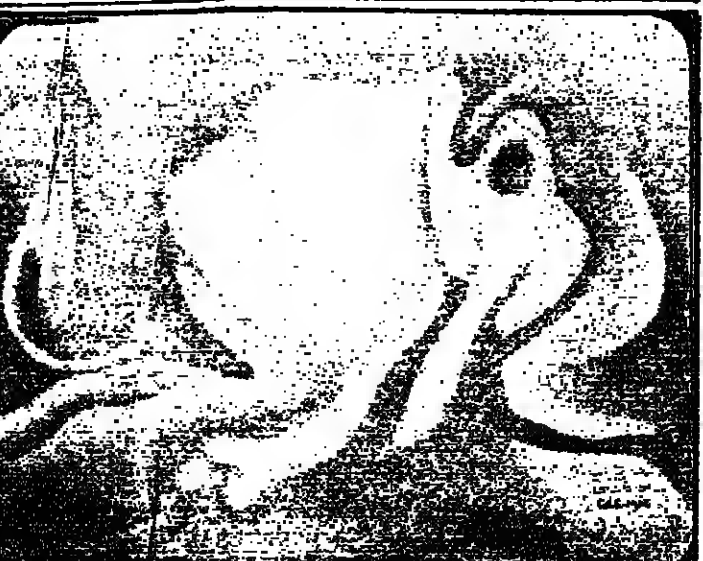
TRAINING PROGRAMME: Yarmouk University has worked out a training programme for members of municipal councils to help them cope with development programmes in their own regions. Taking part in the programme, which was worked out in cooperation with the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment, are 276 municipal officials.

MINISTER OF YOUTH: The Ministry of Youth will take part in the Arab ministers of sports and youth council meetings due to open in Baghdad only 3. Minister of Youth Awad Khleifat will take part in the four-day meeting.

ABANDA LEAVES FOR GENEVA: Department of Meteorology Director General Ali Abanda has left for Geneva to take part in the world Meteorological Organisation's 40th meeting due to open Tuesday. The organisation's executive bureau will discuss programmes and activities for conference and seminars and cooperation among member states.

DAJANI RETURNS: Secretary General of the Amman based Arab Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture Burhan Dajani returned to Amman Sunday after taking part in a consultative committee meeting, set up by the Inter-Arab Investment Guarantee Corporation in Kuwait. Dajani said the committee discussed the corporation's activities and annual budget. The committee approved a project to set up a complex in Kuwait to house a number of Arab organisations. These, Dajani said, include the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) and the Inter-Arab Investment Guarantee Corporation.

TRAINING COURSE: The Jordan Electricity Authority Sunday started a training course on survey for 25 staff members from the Engineering Department. Participants will receive training on the use of survey to determine electrical relay line, with the help of aerial maps and photographs.



ART EXHIBITION: Minister of Culture and National Heritage Mohammad Hammouri Tuesday inaugurates the week-long art exhibition of Tawfiq Yehya, which will be held at the French Cultural Centre. Yehya, born in 1960, has participated in several art exhibitions in Jordan and Iraq. His exhibition includes 38 oil paintings.



Prime Minister Zaid Rifai confers in his office Sunday with Sheikh Ibrahim Al D'eij Al Sabah, chairman of the board and director general of the Kuwait General Corporation for Agricultural and Fisheries Affairs (Petra photo)

Apart from dates, sage, no fruits, vegetables to be imported in June

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Ministry of Agriculture's "Agricultural Marketing Organisation" has issued a statement about types of vegetables and fruit that can be imported or exported by Jordan during June 1988.

It said the merchants can export all types of vegetables and fruit to other countries but apart from dates and sage nothing else is allowed to be imported during this month.

The organisation's statement made it clear that terms of agreements drawn between the Jordanian Agriculture Marketing and Processing Company (JAMPCO)

and the Syrian General Company for Fruit and Vegetables were taken into consideration.

Coinciding with the statement, Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud issued a statement banning all permits for the importation of dry chick-peas as of Sunday and until further notice.

The decision was taken in view of the good harvest of cereals in the country this year, and to protect the interests of local farmers. Agriculture Ministry officials said. They said permits issued before this decision will not be affected.

The ministry will pay JD 170

for a tonne of chick peas produced by Jordanian farmers and has fixed the prices of other cereal products, which it will purchase locally.

According to a statement by the ministry's Secretary General Salem Al Lawzi, Jordan is expected to have a fairly good harvest of cereals this year, and committees have been set up to supervise the purchase of cereals at centres located in different parts of the country.

According to Lawzi, the Kingdom is expected to reap 80,000 tonnes of wheat against 60,000 tonnes of wheat in 1987.



The Jordanian and the Kuwaiti sides, led by Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud and Sheikh Ibrahim Al D'eij Al Sabah, hold a round of formal talks in Amman Sunday (Petra photo)

Workshop on vibration measurement opens

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — A three-day workshop on the "Applications of Vibration Measurements and Analyses in Machine Maintenance" opened at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) Sunday.

The workshop, organised by the RSS's Mechanical Engineering Department, is attended by 36 participants representing a number of public and private Jordanian enterprises and companies.

The workshop is designed to give an understanding of the concept of using machinery vibration as a means to detect wear in rotating parts, and to predict machinery breakdowns, according to an RSS official.

He said the workshop will deal with the principles and methods of machine condition analysis, and the economic benefits obtainable from condition monitoring. Fundamentals of vibration

measurement and analysis are to be explained with particular reference to the optimum choice of measurement parameters and techniques, to avoid unnecessary errors and limitations in detection and diagnostic capability, the official said.

He said that a guide is also

given to the most efficient use of advanced techniques for reducing daily work.

The participants are all plant engineers responsible for planning efficient maintenance programmes and engineers involved in the maintenance of large numbers of machines.

Veteran teacher honoured

AMMAN (J.T.) — A veteran woman teacher who spent the past 50 years in the profession and is still working at Al Ra'ed School in Amman was honoured at a special ceremony held in Amman Sunday.

Evlin Bouri said she had only done what her conscience dictated, and shouldered her responsibility towards the younger generations.

Education Director Dhib Majali, who presented a cup to the

teacher, at the ceremony, paid tribute to her dedication and sacrifice over the past half century.

He also paid tribute to Jordanian teachers at large, and said those working abroad have been serving as ambassadors for their country, relaying a bright image about Jordan.

Evlin responded by saying she was still vigorous and would continue her endeavour. She said, for her, teaching is life which she cannot willingly abandon.

Heavy traffic clogs new interchange

AMMAN (J.T.) — On its first day of opening for traffic Saturday, the interchange at the Ministry of Interior witnessed a congestion of traffic, causing much delay and arousing motorists' tempers on a relatively hot day.

Greater Amman Municipality officials attributed the crisis to the opening of the interchange Saturday morning without prior announcement.

They said that unlike the case of the Sports City Interchange, opened on May 25, a national holiday and in the evening, the opening of the other interchange came on a Saturday, the first day of the working week.

Motorists suddenly found all detours closed by roadblocks and had to follow traffic police direction towards the interchange where they found themselves in a jam, the officials said.

These officials said that the crisis will be over soon, after drivers become used to the new arrangements and traffic directions.

But many motorists were reported expressing dissatisfaction with the direction of traffic specially the route leading from Abdali towards the Sports City. They were quoted by Al Ra'i Arabic daily as saying that the route which normally witnesses a large flow of traffic day and night, ought to have been channelled over a bridge or through a tunnel. Others were quoted as expressing dissatisfaction with the narrow-

ness of the ring road under the limited number of cars at a given time.



The new interchange at the Ministry of Interior witnesses a traffic jam (Photo by Yusef Al 'Allan)

Jordan, Kuwait discuss agricultural cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai conferred in his office Sunday with Sheikh Ibrahim Al D'eij Al Sabah chairman of the board and director general of the Kuwait General Corporation for Agricultural and Fisheries Affairs.

They reviewed existing bilateral cooperation in agricultural fields at a meeting attended by Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud and the Kuwaiti charge d'affaires in Amman.

Sheikh Ibrahim voiced his country's willingness to promote cooperation with Jordan in agricultural fields and to benefit from Jordanian expertise in a number of domains.

The Kuwaiti official was received later by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi with whom he reviewed Jordanian-Kuwaiti cooperation in agriculture and the prospect of launching joint ventures to benefit both countries.

Sheikh Ibrahim said he was impressed by Jordan's achievements in agricultural endeavours.

Sheikh Ibrahim, who arrived here Saturday evening on an official visit to Jordan, was expected to tour a number of Jordanian agricultural projects in the Jordan Valley, and in the north and south of the country.

Earlier Sunday the Minister of Agriculture and Sheikh Ibrahim held a round of formal talks

during which they discussed exchange of expertise in growing forest saplings and vegetation to create pasture land in horticulture, and in means of combating pests and diseases which affect animals and crops.

They also discussed cooperation in veterinary medicine and methods to prevent insects or diseases from entering the two countries.

Also taken up by the two sides was the subject of exchanges of food commodities such as fish and poultry, vaccines and other agriculture-related elements.

The two sides looked into the prospect of entrusting the Jordan Agriculture Marketing and Processing Company (JAMPCO) and a number of Kuwaiti institutions with supervising the exchange of food products and launching joint ventures for the production of cereals, fattening sheep and livestock.

They agreed that any endeavour in this concern would be based on Jordan's expertise.

Hmoud said that agriculture is one of the most important sectors in the Kingdom since it has direct daily effect on all citizens.

He said the Ministry of Agriculture is concerned with developing this sector and ensuring food security.

At the same time, Hmoud said, Jordan believes in the importance of solidarity and joint action by Arab states which can help the country achieve its aspirations.

Sheikh Ibrahim, for his part, praised the existing relations between Kuwait and Jordan and said his country wants to benefit from Jordan's experiences.

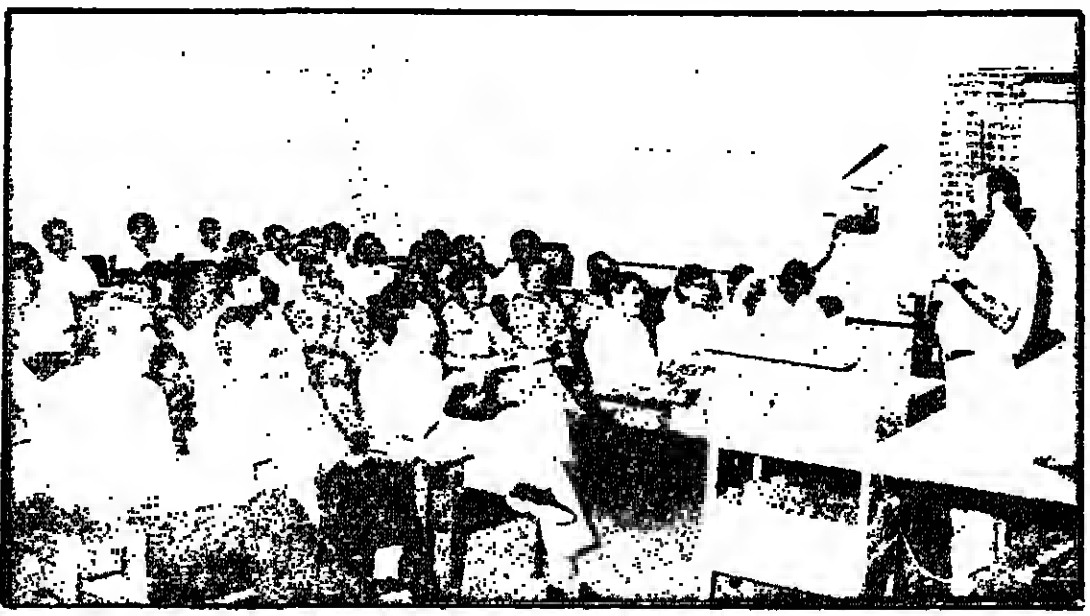
JAMPCO Director General Ghazi Abu Hassan and other ministry officials attended the meeting on the Jordanian side and the members of the Kuwaiti delegation represented the Kuwaiti side at the meeting.

Last year a two-day conference on promoting investments in Jordan was held in Kuwait.

Several working papers dealing with areas for investment in the Kingdom were discussed and sub-committees were set up to explore Jordanian-Kuwaiti cooperation in agriculture, industry, tourism and communications.

The private and public sectors in Jordan had prepared 25 potential economic projects for consideration by financiers in Kuwait, and these were presented to the participants during the two-day meeting.

The Ministry of Agriculture presented four projects concentrating on vegetable, seed and meat production.



Three-day workshop opens at the Royal Scientific Society in Amman Sunday (Petra photo)

Seminar urges to determine number of people with psychological disturbances

AMMAN (J.T.) — A seminar entitled "Society and Psychological Disturbances" ended at the University of Jordan last week, with the participants calling for a survey in Jordan to determine the proportion of people with psychological disturbances and its effects on demographic and cultural changes in the Jordanian society.

The participants said that research work should be conducted into services for the psychologically disturbed and the volume of qualified staff working in this field.

Research should also be conducted into negative economic and social effects, resulting from such disturbance, on the country as a whole and on families in particular, the participants said in a final statement published in the local press Sunday.

The statement said that findings in this regard should be referred to planners and concerned bodies for proper action, and that psychological guidance services should be available at

educational institutions especially schools and industrial organisations employing large numbers of people.

The statement also called for the exploitation of information services to spread awareness

among members of the public about psychological disturbances and difficulties, and the organisation of specialised seminars where psychiatrists and other specialists can meet and discuss the problem.

ANNOUNCEMENT No. 32/88

UNRWA Headquarters in Amman, Jordan requires a quality control officer, salary JD 356.- plus cost of living JD 10.75 rising in 20 increments to JD 359.3.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsible for the operation and administration of the agency's quality control laboratory and for the proper upkeep of all records, equipment and supplies under his charge. Takes samples of commodities upon delivery to the agency by suppliers and of those held in store by the agency, conducts tests of samples taken or supplied by Purchasing, Storing, or User divisions: Inspects agency warehouses and stores to ascertain the methods of storing of commodities: Provides purchasing, storing, or User Divisions with advice in the form of written reports on method of sampling used: Test results and the meaning thereof: Proper methods of storage: insect and rodent control. Must travel frequently within area of operations.

QUALIFICATIONS:

A master's degree (MA) in biochemistry, 6 years experience as a chemist with bio-chemical background, very good knowledge of spoken and written English and Arabic or any combination of training and experience accepted as equivalent.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

Membership of a professional society or organisation concerned with chemical food analysis: Experience in sampling commodities: Experience in storage methods of commodities including insect and rodent control.

APPLICATIONS:

Interested candidates are invited to submit a detailed U.N. personal history form available at UNRWA office in Jordan, showing current qualifications and experience to:

Head of Administration HQ (Amman) and special projects officer
ANV-A/5/88
UNRWA Headquarters (Amman Office)
P.O. Box 484
Amman - Jordan

Deadline for applying
Close of business on June 15, 1988.

N.B. Preference in appointment to fully qualified Palestine refugees.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975

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MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Responsible Editor and Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

RAMI G. KHOURI

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Fax: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

The missing American component

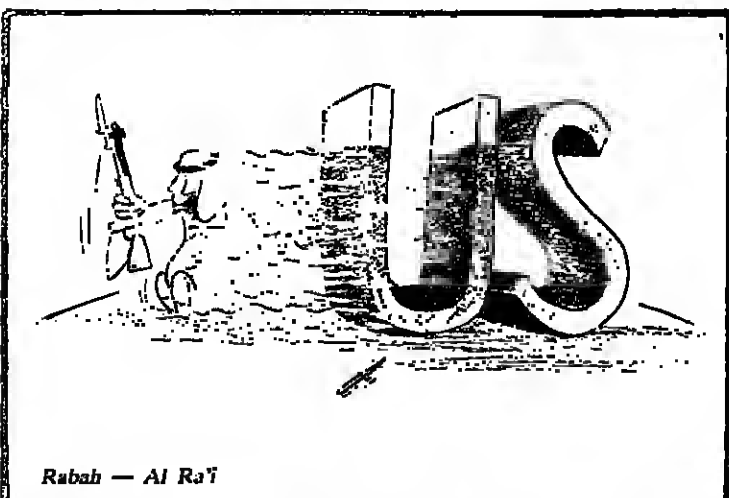
UPON his arrival in Israel yesterday, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said that "the continued occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and the frustration of Palestinian rights, is a dead end. To continue is an illusion."

He is correct, of course, and it is a pleasure to hear him say such forthright things about the 20-year-old occupation of Palestinian land and the 40-year-old denial of Palestinian national right. The question that comes to mind, however, is the following: If continued Israeli occupation of Palestinian land is a dead end and an illusion, why does the United States perpetually finance these two things? Why does the United States increasingly reward Israel for its dead end illusions with a seemingly endless array of economic and military grants, trade accords and strategic cooperation agreements?

The illusion, we would suggest, is both in Israeli policies and in the American government's willingness to acquiesce in those policies, weekly and endlessly. We reject the supposition — now operative in Washington, and articulated so clearly by Mr. Shultz during this and previous visits to the area — that the United States rides into the region on a white horse with a workable peace plan that will bring goodness to all who participate in it. One key reason why the American proposals have elicited some Arab interest — including ours — but no firm Arab commitments to join the suggested peace process is that the American mediator lacks the requisite credibility to promote confidence and to elicit practical participation. Mr. Shultz' plan proposes a direct linkage between the transitional talks and the final status negotiations on Palestinian land and rights and on related issues of land and security of concern to Israel and the Arab states.

We would suggest a slightly different scenario to launch peace talks: The United States should engender linkages between what it says and what it does in the region. Specifically, if the United States feels that the occupation is an illusory dead end, it should announce a series of interlinked, consecutive steps by which continued Israeli occupation of Arab land and denial of Arab rights would trigger American responses in the form of suspended aid payments or curtailed military arms deliveries to Israel.

The full dynamic of stalemate does not start or end in the Holy Land, or in the Semitic family of Arabs and Israelis. It has a very strong American component as well, which Mr. Shultz should act upon if he wants his message of peace and justice to fall upon cooperative Semitic ears.



Rabah — Al Ra'i

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Israeli conspiracy

SUNDAY marks the 21st anniversary of the Israeli conspiracy hatched against the Arab World and executed in the June, 1967 war on the Arab countries. The fifth of June 1988 does not rekindle any memories, since from the moment of the 1967 conspiracy and until now the Arabs have been continuously plagued by sufferings and tragedies. But what is new this year is the on-going uprising in the occupied Palestinian land and the new idea of forming an Arab rapid deployment force as advocated by Jordan to defend the nation. This positive situation, which now prevails in the Arab World, was paved for through the Amman Arab summit where the Arab leaders were able to arrive at consensus and at decisions that are considered of utmost importance to their nation. The upcoming meeting in Algiers coupled with the new American moves towards resolving the Middle East issue seem to be optimistic signs for a solution of the Arab-Israeli problem, and an end to Israel's occupation of Arab land. It should be emphasised, however, that the Arabs will maintain their struggle at all levels for regaining the usurped lands lost to the Israelis in the 1967 war. As long as the Arabs seek to liberate their lands and as long as they are determined by word and deed to regain their rights they will eventually attain their national objective.

Al Dustour: Positive signs

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz made statements in Amman Saturday considered by observers as positive and reflecting a new American stand different from Washington's policies over the past 20 years. The U.S. secretary made a similar statement in Cairo at the outset of his present tour, reflecting a new American outlook towards the whole issue and demonstrating a new American determination to help find a just solution for the Arab-Israeli problem. Shultz's statement contains positive elements that have been lacking in American policies so far, and represent a new language which the U.S. diplomacy should have adopted much earlier to solve the problem. For this reason, we believe that the Moscow summit had its effect on this new attitude and that Washington is now oriented towards a new and real diplomatic move for achieving peace in the Middle East. Jordan welcomes the new U.S. moves which, although very late and coming in Shultz's fourth and probably last tour of the region, they represent a new hope for the people of the Middle East. We hope that the U.S. administration will now follow up on Shultz's initiative and go ahead with plans for resolving the problem.

Sawt Al Shaab: Flexible ideas

IN his fourth trip to the Middle East, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz came up with new, flexible ideas for resolving the Arab-Israeli problem. These ideas and the new tone in Shultz's statements are a natural reflection of the on-going developments in the region specially the uprising in the Israeli-held Arab territory. They might also be influenced by the positive results of the American-Soviet summit which ended in Moscow in the past week and which helped the two superpowers to come closer together in their attempts to end regional conflicts. Perhaps also these new ideas were made to coincide with the coming Algiers Arab summit meeting which is bound to tackle the situation in the occupied Arab territories and other important issues in the Arab World. Shultz's statements are not enough for resolving the problem and he should now translate his words into solid action, and help the American administration to forge ahead with moves to end the conflict and help the Palestinians regain their land and rights. Against all this, we can only reiterate the Arab position which demands an international conference for a just and durable solution for the whole problem.

Arab-U.S. dialogue is urgent

By Waleed Sadi

NOW we know that the most recent New York-CBS news poll revealed that Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis, the Democratic presidential candidate, is emerging as the early favourite in the forthcoming U.S. presidential elections. We also know that the dominant issues which are determining the outcome of the presidential elections are not even remotely connected with the issues of war and peace in the Middle East. On the U.S. domestic front it is the on-going war on drugs and the state of the national economy which are overriding all other matters of concern to the American people. In external affairs, it is the situation in Latin America that appears to supercede all other internationally pressing subjects because, I suppose, of its geographic proximity to the U.S. and the U.S. fear of another conflict that might resemble Vietnam. There are no permanent visible signs that the Palestine conflict and the other major Middle Eastern situations are making a real dent on the minds of the Republican and Democratic presidential candidates.

It is also interesting to note that the Democratic candidate Dukakis is emerging as more domestically oriented, with no or little international experience. This observation about the true colouring and perspective of the emerging favourite in the U.S. presidential elections should tell us a great deal: The American people are turning more and more inward and their apparent choice of Dukakis could be interpreted as a signal to the world including us in the Middle East that the American nation wants to confront first

and foremost its pressing internal challenges on top of which is the drug epidemic. It has become evident now following the superpowers summit that the scene is now set for cooperation rather than confrontation between the two giants on many international and regional fronts. Thus the choice by the American people for a political party and a national leader that are not confrontationalist.

Such projections if accepted, should prompt us in the Middle East to work ever more harder to put our cases on the political map of the U.S. as expeditiously and persuasively as possible. The impact of the Palestinian uprising is slowly fading away and the U.S. media is no longer upgrading news items from the Middle East as it once at the beginning of the Palestinian revolt. We are no longer making the front pages on the U.S. newspapers, a phenomenon which suggests a waning and dampening of interest in what goes on in our region. How to arouse the interest of the American policy-makers in our conflicts demands our most urgent and pressing attention. The question is how to rekindle interest in the subjects of the Middle East region short of heating up the primary conflicts by acts of war.

One thought that comes to my mind in this context is to engage the U.S. presidential hopefuls with dialogue on the highest possible levels as soon as possible. One way to accomplish this tall order would lie in extending invitations to the Republican and Democratic candidates to visit the capitals of the region in order for them to get first hand information about the underlying causes of the conflicts of the

Middle East. This could be done in the wake of the convening of the two respective political parties later on this year which are expected to make official the candidates of the two parties in presidential elections. The draw back in such a belated step lies in the fact that by then the two major parties would have concluded their respective debates on the various international and domestic issues confronting the American nation and would have finished the formulation of their respective political platforms. This law in the methodology suggested here could be remedied by engaging the prospective candidates on earlier dates on lower levels. The full dimensions and complete mechanics of such propositions, as advanced here could be worked out once the principle to activate them has been adopted at the highest levels in the concerned Arab capitals. The main thing is to start the process of dialogue with the U.S. presidential hopefuls before it becomes too late for us to make our case as loud and clear as possible before the next U.S. president. We need to impress upon the potential U.S. chief executive the high stakes involved if Washington maintains its present course in the Middle East. Even more relevant is to outline the high-risk factors in persisting to ignore the Arab side of the equation in the quest for a solution to the Palestinian conflict as well as the other hot conflicts still being nurtured in our midst. Otherwise, we and our rights will be backlogged to oblivion and continue to be treated as marginal people and peripheral issues that can be contained, managed and controlled at a minimum price.

Human Rights in oblivion

Editor's note: The Palestinian Human Rights Information Centre (PHRIC) in Jerusalem has been publishing an "uprising update", which aims to clarify the existing human rights situation as it develops in the occupied territories, as the uprising enters its sixth month. The information bulletin is distributed in cooperation with the Database Project on Palestinian Human Rights, whose international office is in Chicago. These updates will be published in the Jordan Times as they are received. Included in these information bulletins are lists of those killed during the uprising, as

confirmed by the International Committee of the Red Cross, lists of detainees, and updated human rights reports as they develop. While some sources and background material is publicly available, most of the information comes from first hand reports, fieldworker visits to hospitals, refugee camps, towns and villages, and from working relationships between the PHRIC and other institutions in the occupied territories. The material is collected and verified in Jerusalem and sent to Chicago, where the updates are produced and distributed internationally.

Arrests, Detentions and Closures of Institutions Prisons and Prisoners

Israeli officials refuse to estimate the numbers of people currently held under administrative detention. They did, however, release a figure of 7525 Palestinians under arrest as of May 10. This compares with figures of approximately 5000 April 19 and 3000 in mid-March. Rabin estimated 1700 were under administrative detention as of April 25. It is possible that the refusal to release an estimate reflects a lack of knowledge on the part of the Israelis. Procedures concerning administrative detention have become confused at every level: People told they are in administrative detention are presented with charge sheets; people appearing in court on charges are told they are in detention; people whose terms are over are not released.

There are plans to double the capacity of Ansar 3. The original cost of the facility was approximately NIS4,000,000 (US\$2,400,000); doubling it is expected to cost NIS4,500,000 (US\$2,700,000). As of May 5 there were over 3,200 prisoners in Ansar 3; 90% are thought to be under administrative detention; the population grows by about 20 prisoners a day. One hundred and eight prisoners were transferred from Janid prison (Nablus) to Ansar 3 on May 8. According to an April 28 report one Gaza administrative detainee is mentally retarded.

Conditions in Ansar 3 continue to deteriorate, exacerbated by extreme heat and the stress of Ramadan; 200 prisoners were reportedly tear gassed for praying May 5.

There is an unconfirmed report that 25 people suffered from food poisoning in Fara'a prison May 8. A mutiny apparently broke out in the new tent section of the old prison in Nablus May 12; tents were destroyed and prisoners clashed with soldiers. Thirteen prisoners were reported injured from beating.

Arrests continue. Eleven youths were arrested in the raid and tear gas attack that killed Na'ima Abdul Aziz Adi in Beit Ummar April 23, including her son; 40 were arrested in Tal (Nablus) 7 in Bani Na'im the same day. At least six older people (35-50 years old) were arrested in Arroub April 22. Arrests from Mazra'a-Sharqiya April 27 included orders for the Imam of the mosque to report to military headquarters, where he was also arrested. Over 60 people were arrested in Hebron that evening. Figures for May 1 include 100 from Nablus, over 7 from the Hebron villages, 8 from the Mt. of Olives, 5 from Kalkilya and 30 administrative detentions from Gaza.

In Asira Shamalya (Nablus) where the municipality building was burned at the beginning of May between 400-500 people were rounded up from the village and interrogated; 17 of them were arrested May 4. Three sisters were arrested in Beit Jalla May 4 for having copies of Abeer, a women's magazine, in their house. On May 6, 30 were arrested in Halhoul and 50 in the Sheikh district of Hebron. Twenty people were arrested in Deir Ghasoun (Nablus) May 11; Husan was declared a closed military zone at midnight May 10 and 17 people arrested there.

Tens were arrested in a 1:00 a.m. raid in Burka the same night. Jalazon camp estimates that 200 of its people are in prison, out of 5000-6000 in the camp; Balata estimates that it has 72 people under administrative detention, 232 arrested and sentenced and 97 detained.

Mohammad Ahmad Fanoun from Nahalin (Bethlehem) was arrested March 20; neither his family nor the ICRC have been able to find out where he is. Sheikh Abu Srur, who was released in the 1985 prisoner exchange, had been in confinement for 30 days, beaten in the head and lost consciousness, according to a May 11 report.

Information on arrests is clearly fragmentary and even fragmentary information from Gaza difficult to obtain.

The Israelis staged a release of 300 prisoners May 14. Except for the head of Hebron University, Nabil Jabari, who has been under administrative detention in Ansar 3, those released were primarily young people. Reporters invited to Ramallah Civil Administration for the release were escorted through the barriers preventing Palestinians from the West Bank from reaching Jerusalem and other journalists from reaching the territories. They witnessed a commander telling the young people how wonderful their release was and that they should not get into trouble again. They also heard an old man thank the military governor for his release. When they attempted to speak with the young people directly they were prevented. Some crews left at this point.

Journalists and Members of Professional Organisations

The dissident press in Israel is in serious difficulty. In addition to Ribhi Aruri, who was arrested February 16 and is in administrative detention, and Yacov Ben Efrat, who was arrested in mid-April, three members of the De-rech Hanizot/Tariq a-Sharara staff are now in prison: Roni Ben Efrat, Michael Schwartz and Hadas Lahay. Roni Ben Efrat and Schwartz were arrested at the end of April and Lahay May 9. During Schwartz' arrest the publication's office was searched for three hours and subscribers' lists, as well as the names of people there, were taken.

At Schwartz' hearing May 3 at Petah Tikva Judge Barak suggested to attorney Felicia Langer that another attorney should represent Schwartz, since he felt Langer could "unconsciously slip security information to the press." Langer continues to represent Schwartz. The army came to the home of another of the Nitzotza-Sharara organisation's attorneys, Abed Assaly, the night of May 4 with search warrants for his house, office and car. They confiscated his files concerning the Nitzotza-Sharara case.

Ali Jidda of the Alternative Information Centre, has been restricted to Jerusalem, must be in his home at sunset and must report to the police every day.

The English and Arabic editions of the weekly magazine Al-Awda were closed as scheduled May 1.

Palestinian journalists working within the Palestinian press continue to be major targets. Five military cars pulled up to the offices of Arabic Al-Fajr at 10:30 p.m. May 2. They took the ID card numbers of people present and arrested managing editor

Hatem Abdul Khader; Khader was given 6 months administrative detention; soldiers entered and searched his home May 4. Elias Zananani of the Palestine Press Service was arrested May 5 on charges of inciting an International Women's Day march and throwing stones. He was released after 48 hours on NIS1000 (US\$600) bail. Journalist Muta-waki Taha, who has been under interrogation since February 18, was transferred to administrative detention in early May. Nadihan Khreish of Al Fajr, who has been under town arrest for years and was placed under administrative detention 3 months ago had his detention order renewed for another three months May 11. Three other journalists from Al-Fajr: Rial Juhuran, Talal Abu Afif and Musa Jaradat and one journalist from Al-Awda; Jamil Dweik, were arrested May 11. There is a report that Hassan Abed Rabo, of Al-Awda, is also under arrest.

Mubarak Awad

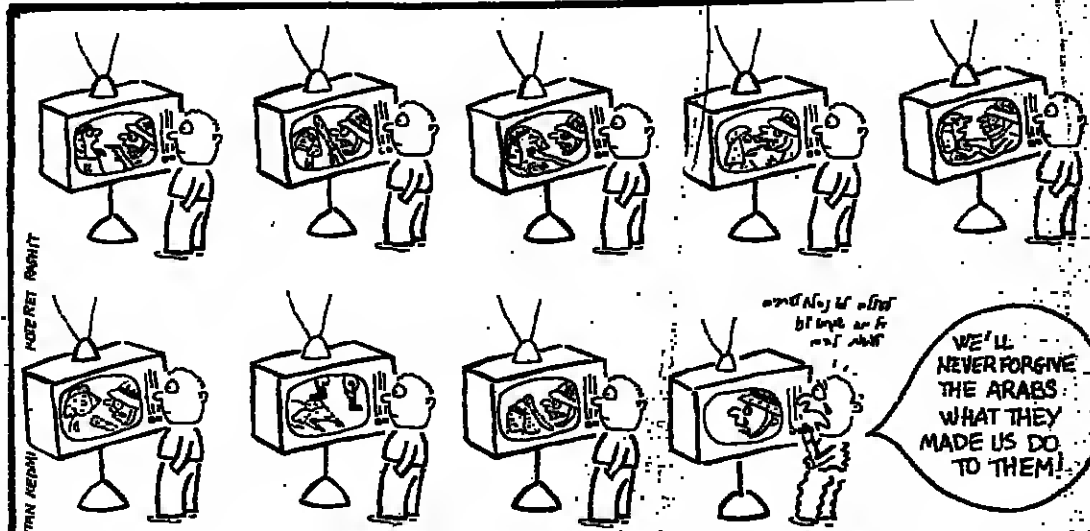
The arrest and proposed expulsion of Mubarak Awad, the head of the Palestinian Centre for the Study of Non-violence, May 6 has received wide publicity. Awad, who was born in Jerusalem, is a naturalised American citizen. His Jerusalem ID card was taken from him last year and the Israelis intend to deport him on procedural grounds, as a tourist who has illegally overstayed his visa. Both he and some of his supporters were on hunger strike until his hearing May 9; after that he was transferred to Ramle prison until May 23, when the High Court is to decide on his appeal.

Attorney Jawad Boulos was charged with "espionage" in Nablus court April 26. The charge is in connection with an incident at Petah Tikva court in December 1987. Boulos had conducted a preliminary interview with an arrestee who told him he did not need representation as he was working for the Israelis. Boulos had then told the judge he would not represent the man on this basis.

Adnan Idris of An-Najah University was arrested April 26 and placed under administrative detention. He had headed the human rights panel at the Birzeit University conference in late March. The head of Public Relations at Gaza Islamic University, Yusuf Juma'a Sahameh, was placed under administrative detention April 26. Dr. Zakaria Agha, head of the Gaza Physicians Union, was arrested April 29, permitted to return home briefly the next morning and then placed under administrative detention in Gaza Central prison.

Dr. Agha was head of internal medicine at Nasser hospital in Khan Yunis for 13 years until September 1987, when he was fired for "unauthorised political activity." Members of a Tel Aviv University faculty group have charged that his arrest is in connection with his having appeared at a Peace Now rally in March. Haj Ibrahim Dabharan, a member of the Dhaka (relief) committee in Kalkilya, was placed under administrative detention May 8; he is diabetic. Professor Abdel Fatah Qassem, who was under administrative detention in Ansar 3 as of the end of April, was transferred to Fara'a prison May 11.

The deputy head of the Gaza Bar Association, Yunis Ahmad Ajaru, was put in administrative



detention in Ansar 3 April 23, having been arrested the week before. Attorneys Raji Sourani and Mohammad Abu Shabaan, under administrative detention, were transferred from Ansar 3 to Gaza Central prison April 30. Attorneys have initiated appeal procedures against their and at least 80 other administrative detentions (under the changed regulations appeals are no longer automatic; they also go before the military objections committee rather than a court).

The head of the General Federation of Trade Unions on the West Bank was informed April 25 that the Jenin office would be closed for two years. The Union of Construction Workers in Salfit (Nablus) was informed May 3 of a two-year closure; the order was dated March 18.

Economic War

The tax aspect of the Gaza registration is part of a larger effort to break tax resistance in the infodah. Although gasoline deliveries to the West Bank and Gaza Strip were finally resumed April 23 deliveries to particular stations were made contingent upon the owners' receiving VAT and other tax clearances. As of April 26 Bethlehem residents seeking to register the births of their children have needed tax clearances; as of April 29 they have needed clearances to get into government hospitals, to have operations or get medical reports. It is likely that these restrictions apply in other places. Tax authorities roadblocks have been erected at various places; people on the tax lists have been prohibited from crossing the roadblocks, have been arrested and in some cases have had their cars confiscated. Such roadblocks were erected next to Beit Safafa (Bethlehem) and between Ramallah and Beit Hanina (Jerusalem) on April 28; cars were confiscated at roadblocks near Ramallah on May 1; four cars belonging to a driving school in Khan Yunis (Gaza) were confiscated by tax authorities May 4; tax authorities shot and wounded someone in the Ramallah industrial zone May 5. At roadblocks near Nablus cars were confiscated by the tax authority and army April 11.

Offices of the Gaza Lawyers and Engineers unions (and possibly also the Red Crescent and Women's union) were raided by tax authorities April 25, who confiscated records. Heads of the first two organisations were ordered to report to the tax authorities April 26.

The taxes, fines etc., being demanded are arbitrary. A Bethlehem tour guide received a letter May 12 saying that the NISS000 (US\$3100) he had owed from 1984 was now NIS 83,000 (US\$52,000). The guide was recently hospitalised and has not worked in a long time. A picture framer in Jerusalem received a tax bill for NIS19,000 (US\$12,600). While specific amounts of money have sometimes been proven negotiable in the past the principle of demanding arbitrary sums and enforcing the demand has been consistent.

The conflict over who decides when shops open and close has intensified; soldiers in every city routinely attempt to force shops

open during closed period and closed during open periods. Identity cards were confiscated from Bethlehem merchants who refused to obey army orders April 24; on the 25th the merchants were warned that if they refused to comply their shops would be closed forever (as opposed to indefinitely).

Almost 100 shops have been welded shut in Bethlehem since an Israeli soldier was killed there March 20. The Bethlehem to Beit Fajar bus line was closed for a week April 25 because the line had closed during a general strike. Food trucks travelling from Bethlehem to Jerusalem were turned back at Beit Safafa May 1. Street vendors and young boys selling newspapers have also become part of the shops conflict. Papers have been confiscated in Hebron, Bethlehem, Nablus, Ramallah and Bireh and a newspaper seller was beaten in front of Damascus Gate May 11.

A local statement distributed in Ramallah and Bireh April 23 called for people to refuse to pay taxes and fines, boycott Israeli products, work on the land and to keep the shops closed for five more days. Shops in Ramallah entered their fifth week of closure. Soldiers attacked the Bireh and Hebron vegetable markets April 25. Although Ramallah is very well organised at the local level people carrying groceries have been stopped and their groceries confiscated and destroyed; people were arrested for working in their gardens on May 1. Soldiers told people in the Kanda professional building in Ramallah April 26 that they would have to close their offices during open hours. Twenty-four officers returned with the soldiers May 3 and vandalised the building; they cut phone lines and destroyed solar heaters, windows and locks. The owner's complaints to the police brought no positive results.

Transportation of produce from one district to another has been prohibited for some time. Seven hundred and fifty tons of oranges the Sa'ir (Hebron) women's cooperative ordered from Kabatyia (Jenin) were confiscated in early April. Food is still being prevented from reaching the Ramallah-Bireh, along with Nablus and Jericho. Shortages of food were reported in the Old City of Nablus April 23. These problems are in addition to those caused by regular curfews and sieges (see below).

Attempts to control shopkeepers have begun in earnest in East Jerusalem. On April 23 shopkeepers in the Musrara section, just outside Damascus Gate, were told that they must open their shops from 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. or face being closed. The order was under the British Emergency Defence Regulations (1945), which began to be applied to East Jerusalem in January, and was signed by Mitzena. The army marked the shops which failed to comply April 24 and told the owners that they faced NISS000 (US\$3100) fines or two years in jail if they failed to open their shops the next day. Fourteen shopkeepers were arraigned in the Russian Compound (Moscoviya) police station April 25; their court date was postponed until May 29. Police sit outside the

Musrara merchants' shops taking prospective customers' ID numbers and warning them not to buy there. Shopkeepers on Salah Eddin Street were warned April 27 that they faced the same situation; that threat has not materialised by the street has been repeatedly closed to automobiles since the beginning of May.

Animals, trees and wheatfields have also been targeted. The army bulldozed an unknown number of dunams of wheat in Fara'a (Bethlehem); destroyed 50 trees in Ta'amari (Bethlehem) and bulldozed 200 dunams of land planted with grapes and olive and almond trees in Husa April 25. The night before, a military car and 3 bulldozers entered Katanah (Ramallah) located near the settlement Ma'ale Efrain. They declared the village a closed military zone and uprooted over 450 olive trees dating from Roman times. The trees, which belonged to Mohammad Mahmud al-Fakh and Musa Abu Halim al-Fakh, were taken away in trucks over a 2-day period. Ma'ale Efrain and other settlements. Tombs were also destroyed in the village cemetery.

Settlers and army vandalised Khirbith Bani Hathi (Ramallah) April 24. The army placed the village under curfew and then tear gassed sheep and chickens, killing 24 sheep and 200 chickens. They smashed windows and solar heaters and uprooted trees. Settlers burned down a chicken house containing 300 chickens. On April 27 the sheep market in Dhahariya was tear gassed and declared a closed military zone; 3 lines of citrus trees in Kalkilya were destroyed. Thirteen trees were destroyed in Bida May 1. On May 9 the army humped four carts bringing fodder for sheep in Kalkilya. Trees have also been destroyed in Kafir Hathi, Beit Sira and Beit Ur a-Tah. Over 20,000 dunams of pasture were destroyed by burning in Irmus Aych May 14; settler involvement is suspected.

The army announced a complete commercial stoppage in the West Bank for three days beginning May 6 (The National Leadership had declared May 9 and 10 as General Strike days). Gas stations, bakeries, pharmacies and vegetable markets were forcibly closed in addition to regular businesses; newspaper vendors had their papers confiscated; people were forcibly taken from services (shared taxis). When Bethlehem merchants tried to open their stores in violation of the closure May 6 their identity cards were taken. The thina factory belonging to Abu Afat in Nablus was vandalised by the army May 7 and workers were beaten. A chicken shop in Hebron whose owner tried to open during the closure was closed down.

The conflict in Beit Jiffar over who has the authority to pay the water bill has resulted in an ongoing siege. The village has refused to make the payment through the municipality; the civil administration has refused to accept payment made independently. The village had been without water and electricity for 41 days as of May 12. Reports of produce and quarry stones have been prohibited.

Libya accuses U.S. of 'state terrorism'

LONDON (R) — Libya has denied allegations by the United States that it was involved in recent anti-American attacks and accused Washington of adopting a policy of state terrorism and threats in its international dealings.

The Libyan news agency JANA, in a statement monitored in London by the British Broadcasting Corporation, said Saturday it denied comments by U.S. State Department spokesman Phyllis Oakley Friday that Libya was behind a rise in international terrorism.

She cited the interception by France last November of 150 tonnes of arms allegedly supplied by Libya, including surface-to-air missiles, for the Irish Republican Army, and the arrest of two alleged Libyan agents carrying bomb-making equipment in Senegal.

JANA said Oakley's statements "reaffirmed that the

American administration has officially adopted the policy of 'state terrorism' and the use of threatening language in international dealings."

It said they were "the inception of an aggression against this secure and peaceful country, an aggression which has no justification save rancour, hegemony and racism."

The agency said Libya was not responsible for the results of what it called America's "anti-peoples" policy nor what reactions there might be to it.

State Department officials said they were investigating alleged Libyan involvement in attacks against U.S. Information Agency offices in Latin America, a bombing at an American servicemen's club in Naples and other attacks in New Delhi, Khartoum and Bombay.

U.S. officials acknowledged they had no hard evidence linking Libya to any of the incidents.



SLAUGHTER IN BEIRUT: At least 15 people were killed when a car bomb exploded in east Beirut May 30, at a time when life was returning to a semblance of normality in the southern, Shi'ite suburbs of the Lebanese capital under the supervi-

sion of the Syrian army. The bomb exploded near the cart of a strolling fruit vendor at a moment when housewives had gathered around his cart (Sygma photo)

Disbanding of Amal militia aimed at ensuring elections

By Diana Abdallah
Reuters

BEIRUT — The planned withdrawal of Shi'ite Amal fighters from Syrian-held areas in Lebanon is part of a calculated move to ensure presidential elections take place, analysts and diplomats say.

Pro-Syrian political sources said the move was a Syrian-inspired one to help Damascus bargain for the withdrawal of gunmen from Beirut before the August elections.

Lebanon's President Amin Gemayel is due to end his six-year term in September.

Berri said Friday he was withdrawing his estimated 30,000 gunmen from Syrian-controlled areas although he gave no date for the withdrawal to begin.

He said some would be redeployed at Beirut's frontline against the rightists, but the majority would be sent south to confront Israel.

Diplomats said that Amal's decision was an indirect admission of its military defeat by Iranian-backed Hizbollah (Party of God) fighters in 22 days of battles in Beirut's southern suburbs which killed 500 people.

Hizbollah won 90 per cent of the southern suburbs during the fighting which ended May 29 when Syrian peacekeeping troops took control of the battle-scarred streets.

"Berri's move to re-deploy his militiamen was both clever and useful. Clever because it was an admission of the results of the fighting in the suburbs and useful because it presents a pretext to Syria to pressure other militias who refuse to give up their arms," said one diplomat.

"Syria can now tell the Americans and the Christians that it has almost complete control of the (predominantly) Muslim part of Beirut and that the same should happen in the (mainly) Christian east before the elections," said one source.

Syria and Washington have been negotiating in the past months over political reforms in

Lebanon to ensure smooth polls and U.S. envoys have been shuttling between Beirut and Damascus.

Damascus has called for a new central administration to run greater Beirut, bringing both sectors under the control of the Lebanese army and ending militia rule.

Rightists hardliners who run the eastern sector of the city say they will accept a central administration only if Syria withdraws from the capital and if the election for a successor to the Christian president goes ahead as planned.

U.S. State Department envoy April Glaspie was expected back in Syria and Lebanon within days to resume negotiations on paving way for the elections.

Diplomats say the latest talks will centre around reforms to give the majority Muslims more power in the political system dominated by Christians and set up the central administration for greater Beirut before the elections.

More than 4,000 Syrian troops deployed in the suburbs last weekend to end the battles which gave them control of all Muslim areas of the Lebanese capital.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

Occupied lands shut down

(Continued from page 1)

The Palestinian flag with its red, green, black and white design was seen flying Sunday throughout Gaza City and in Ramallah in the West Bank. Smoke from tyres set ablaze as a symbol of protest rose over Gaza City and the Rafah refugee camp.

A clash erupted in the Rafah camp where stones were thrown at an army patrol and soldiers responded with a barrage of tear-gas, an Arab reporter said.

In the West Bank's Bureij refugee camp, a 24-year-old man was hospitalised with beating wounds after a clash with Israeli soldiers, hospital officials said.

In Tulkarem in the West Bank, an Israeli bus was set ablaze and students staged protest marches from at least three schools, an Arab report said. But it said the bus carried no passengers and no

injuries were reported.

In Tel Aviv, a military court Sunday sentenced a soldier to one year in prison for killing a Palestinian. The court also gave private Yaacov Tamir, 24, a two-year suspended sentence after he confessed to the manslaughter last January of the Palestinian in Gaza City's Shajia'ye district.

Meanwhile, the Israeli occupation authorities' drive to force all Gaza Strip residents to take new identity cards entered a new phase Sunday when cards were exchanged for the first time in a refugee camp.

Witnesses said thousands of Palestinians queued peacefully to get their new cards at the Shi'ite refugee camp in Gaza City.

Troops earlier toured Gaza City, warning residents through megaphones that they would be punished if they did not exchange their cards by the end of Sunday.

Syria, India renew call for international conference

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syria and India have restated their support for a full-scale international Middle East peace conference, with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) included.

President Hafez Al Assad reaffirmed Syria's policy two days before he was due to meet U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, who is now touring the region to win support for Washington's more modest proposal.

Assad was speaking at a banquet for Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, who also expressed backing a United Nations-sponsored conference and an independent Palestinian state.

Assad said the road to peace was well known. "It is that of the implementation of the relevant U.N. resolutions through the convening of an effective international peace conference with the participation of all parties concerned, including the PLO," he said.

He said peace could not be restored "unless the question of Palestine finds a solution which secures the rights of the Palestinian people."

Assad, who held reconciliation talks with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat in late April, said Syria would continue to support the Palestinian cause and "to resist the Zionist occupation of Arab territories everywhere" as a national duty.

Damascus would continue to back Arab resistance to Israeli occupation of the Golan Heights, the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and South Lebanon, he said.

"The aggressors should realise that methods of oppression and brutal repression cannot extinguish the spirit of resistance and cannot impose surrender on the people," he said.

Gandhi urged an immediate end to what he called four decades of violence and hate, oppression and suffering.

"The crux of the issue is that the Palestinians must have a state of their own in their own homeland," he said. "This is their inalienable right. Without self-determination for the Palestinians, there can be no peace in the area."

Peace in West Asia was not possible through piecemeal solutions and partial measures but through a comprehensive settle-



Hafez Al Assad



Rajiv Gandhi

ment, Gandhi said. "To reach such a settlement, negotiations must be held at an international conference under the aegis of the United Nations with participation of all parties to the dispute, including the PLO," he said.

Gandhi, paying a three-day visit to Syria, was welcomed earlier with a 21-gun salute and discussed Middle East issues in a private meeting with Assad before the banquet.

Gandhi also referred to the six-month-old Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation.

He said: "The ugly reality of the repression and brutality unleashed by Israel on the Arab people of the occupied territories has been carried by television into millions of Indian homes. So has the defiance and courage of the Palestinian people."

Gandhi said India supported United Nations efforts for ending the Iran-Iraq war through negotiations.

At the same time he criticised the presence of "extraneous powers" in the region.

"Let us stand warned. West Asia is a sensitive region. Powers extraneous to the region are exploiting the war in the Gulf to intensify their naval presences and fuel the conflict through indiscriminate arms supplies," he said.

"It is vital to the security of West Asia that the area is insulated from the disastrous consequences of outside rivalries, interferences and intervention. As

members of the Non-Aligned Movement it should be our endeavour to strengthen the forces of non-alignment in the region."

Assad said the starting of the Gulf war was "a major mistake."

"Our efforts are to stop this war spreading, hoping this will create the atmosphere for halting it," he said in his speech.

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Siad Barre says order restored in north Somalia after rebel attack

NAIROBI (Agencies) — Somalia President Mohammad Siad Barre has said his troops have restored order in northern Somalia following what he described as a "suicide attack by armed terrorists" last week against several towns.

"Everything is back to normal," the government-owned radio quoted the president Saturday.

Rebels of the Somali National Movement (SNM), which has been fighting the Siad Barre government for seven years, claimed that they took the town of Burao last Monday and in the succeed-



Mohammad Siad Barre

ing days overran Hargeisa, the main town in the north, the port of Berbera and at least half a dozen smaller towns.

The fighting prompted a U.N.-organised evacuation of 160 foreigners from the north, mostly aid workers.

The expatriates — which included 25 Britons, 20 Americans and about 45 Chinese road construction workers — were flown from Hargeisa to Garowe during a two-day operation that ended Saturday. The foreigners are expected to arrive in Mogadishu, the capital, early this week.

Hargeisa, Somalia's second largest town, is 960 kilometres north of Mogadishu near the Ethiopian border. Garowe is 550 kilometres southeast of Hargeisa.

Mogadishu Radio, monitored in Nairobi, said Siad Barre spoke of the fighting in the north during a meeting Saturday of the Central Committee of the ruling Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party.

"President Mohammad Siad Barre addressed party officials on the recent suicide attacks on some districts of northern regions of Somalia by armed terrorists," the radio said. "The president said that everything is back to normal."

Siad Barre, a major-general, took power in a 1969 bloodless coup.

The SNM began an armed struggle April 6, 1981, to topple the Mogadishu government, whose biggest ally is the United States.

In Mogadishu, visiting Ethiopian Foreign Minister Berhanu Bayh condemned the attacks as a plot to undermine current peace efforts in the region.

The SNM operated from Ethiopian territory for several years, but Ethiopia pledged to stop supporting the rebels as part of an agreement reached in April to restore peace to the Ethiopia-Somali border.

Shultz warns of new war

(Continued from page 1)

has ruled out territorial compromise.

Shultz seemed keen to drive home to Israelis the risk of war if they opted for intransigence.

"We want to avoid any war that will be unlike any conflict we've seen before, involving more casualties and proving harder to contain. These realities increase the stakes dramatically for regional parties and lay to rest the notion that time works in favour of accommodation," he said.

At his 75-minute meeting with Shamir, Shultz reported on the outcome of last week's Moscow summit between President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

U.S. and Soviet officials have said Moscow and Washington have moved closer on Middle East peace efforts but still differ over the role and powers of an international peace conference.

In remarks to reporters, Shamir expressed gratitude for the American briefing and for the signing of a U.S.-Israeli memorandum of agreement in April.

He did not comment on the substance of the talks.

Shultz's stalled peace plan calls for a largely ceremonial international peace conference to launch direct Arab-Israeli talks on Palestinian "self-rule" in the occupied territories, with early negotiations on the final status of the areas.

Another Shamir spokesman Yossi Ben Aharon, told reporters Shamir reaffirmed his opposition to an international peace conference in talks with Shultz.

Shultz later met Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, both from the Labour Party, which favours a limited international conference and "territorial concessions" in exchange for peace.

Israeli leaders have said they see little prospect of a breakthrough in Middle East peace efforts this year because of the Israeli government deadlock on the issue and impending U.S. and Israeli elections in November. Rabin acknowledged that he

and Shultz had disagreed over human rights in the occupied territories.

"No doubt the secretary and his people have got certain differences of opinion with us about the meaning and the interpretation of human rights," he told reporters.

Shultz and Shamir had a second session at dinner.

In the meantime, Shamir aide Ben Aharon rejected Shultz's warning that Israel "was on a dead end street."

He told reporters at a briefing: "We may have to live with the status quo in the absence of any readiness on the part of our neighbours to negotiate with us. So we have to be ready to live with the worst option, which is continuing the status quo."

"But we are united in our quest for negotiations with our neighbours, direct, and we do not believe that anything that will substitute for direct negotiations will bring about any kind of progress towards peace."

Shultz's plan and mission won a renewed endorsement from Peres.

He said Shultz's decision to visit the region a fourth time this year "sends a loud and clear message to all listeners, a message of a hope and choice."

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Money market awaits CBJ moves

By Salameh Ne'matt
Jordan Times Economics Correspondent

AMMAN — King Faisal Square — where most of Jordan's moneychangers do their business — was quiet Sunday. There was little demand for the U.S. dollar in the wake of the Central Bank of Jordan's (CBJ's) announcement of imminent new rules to loosen controls on foreign exchange and more flexible interest rates.

According to the CBJ, the new rules, expected to become effective today, are designed to quell a run on dollars that put the Jordan dinar under pressure over the past few weeks.

Moneychangers quoted prices at 380 fils to the dollar Sunday, compared to the 355 fils guideline sell price posted by the CBJ.

The demand for the dollar, which caused the second flurry in the domestic market in one month — Thursday, subsided over Saturday and Sunday, but the prices remained high compared to the 365 fils to the dollar before Thursday and the 345 fils before May 2.

"Following the central bank's announcement... one moneychanger said, 'only a fool would buy dollars at the present rate.'"

"I expect a return to the 370 fils to the dollar rate over the next couple of days," the moneychanger, who asked not to be identified, said. "There is no way to know what the new CBJ rules are, and what their effect will be, until they are released," he added. "We just have to wait and see."

The central bank hopes the new rules would kick the dollar's price back to about 350 to 360 fils from the highs of about 390 fils reached at exchange houses last Thursday.

The latest International Monetary Fund (IMF) figures

showed that foreign exchange reserves slumped to a record low of \$27.7 million in April from \$128.1 million in March.

In April 1987, foreign exchange reserves totalled \$174.3 million, according to the IMF.

Banks offer help
Bankers say there is no cause for worry as the central bank has one million ounces of gold, while commercial banks and financial institutions hold substantial reserves of foreign currency.

Bankers say that, if asked, they would be willing to deposit part of their reserves with the central bank at an agreed upon interest rate.

The CBJ said most of the growing demand for the dollar was drawn to finance capital flight. It said the central bank was providing commercial banks with "adequate amounts of foreign currency... for legitimate transactions."

The government has decided to set up a special committee to establish the bases for foreign exchange guidelines "to avert the crises witnessed recently in the money market," Al Ra'i reported Sunday.

The committee would be chaired by Finance Minister Hanan Odeh and include CBJ Governor Hussein Qasem, former

central bank governor Khalil Salem and former industry and trade minister Rajai Muasher and CBJ Deputy Governor Maher Shukri and Arab Bank Deputy General Manager Khaled Shoman.

Al Ra'i said "there is a tendency in favour of revoking exchange licences given to commercial banks and limiting the dealing in banknotes to licensed moneychangers."

Without identifying sources, Al Ra'i said that under the pending rules, existing regulations, that were loosely implemented in the past, would be reinforced, while keeping regulations at a minimum. It did not elaborate.

The CBJ deputy governor said in a recent interview that there will be more liberalisation of interest rates.

"We will depend more on market forces to determine interest rates," This, he added, "does not mean we will stop limiting the rates, but we will give more room to market forces to determine their level."

"Our conviction is that market forces are stronger than the central bank," Shukri said in an interview published simultaneously in the Jordan Times and Al Ra'i Sunday. "Allowing these forces to serve as indicators would be better than completely ignoring them."

Capital outflow
In a recent interview with the Jordan Times, Arab Jordan Investment Bank Deputy General Manager Jawad Hadid warned that any restrictions on commercial banks aimed to check the outflow of foreign currencies would create a parallel underground market.

"I expect to see funds smuggled out and inflow to be limited to actual needs," Hadid said. "What we really need are fiscal measures to conserve the country's resources." He pointed out that there had been much drain on Jordan's foreign currency to exports to Iraq.

He said that cancelling moneychanging units in commercial banks would create a black market and widen the margin between the official and market exchange rates. Such measures would hurt the convertibility of the dinar.

So far, he said, "the banking system, in the interim period, has met the demand at a rate not much higher than that of the central bank."

Hadid said he was in favour of floating rates and an atmosphere of flexibility through which the central bank would pay the international market rates. He said commercial banks should cooperate with the central bank.

Regaining confidence
"We are now seeing pressures on the dinar," Hadid said. People are getting out of their dinar savings and there is an upward pressure on interest rates. Stability depends on regaining confidence, he noted.

He said a small depreciation of the dinar would be "healthy and necessary to encourage export industries and to lower unemployment. But first," he added, "you must regain confidence."

"If the central bank is to devalue the dinar," Hadid said, "it would have to protect the new exchange rate. Otherwise, people feel what happened to the currencies of neighbouring countries may happen here."

Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation General Manager Basel Jardaneh believes that proper government policies would restore stability to the foreign currency market. "but it has to be a package including new economic and fiscal policies. It cannot be done by the central bank alone."

Commenting on pending central bank rules, Jardaneh said it was "difficult to tell their effect on the market. There are advantages and disadvantages," he explained.

He said that large amounts of foreign currencies with commercial banks give confidence in the economy. "These funds could be used to generate U.S. dollars to meet the current needs. They could be used by special arrangements with the central bank."

There are reports the central bank may ask commercial banks to deposit 25 per cent of their foreign currency with the central bank.

Jardaneh said that the Jordan dinar is no more pegged to the Special Drawing Rights (SDR) but rather to a special basket of currencies determined by the central bank, reflecting trade relations and taking into consideration the foreign exchange rate and the cost of living.

"The dinar is now more affected by the movement of the U.S. dollar's value and the demand and supply of the foreign currency market," Jardaneh said. In Al Ra'i's interview published Saturday, Shukri said that the IMF agreed with the central bank view that the dinar exchange rate was appropriate.

"There is no policy to devalue the dinar," he was quoted as saying. "The IMF is happy with the price formula of the dinar."

Shukri said the central bank had uncoupled the dinar from the

SDR because of major fluctuations on world currency markets and linked it to a trade-weighted basket of currencies the bank had devised itself.

Legal connection
This allowed the dinar to decline gradually, correcting what he called a slight overvaluation prevailing from early 1985.

Reuters quoted economist Fahed Fanek as saying that Shukri's reported statement was alarming because the dinar was tied to the SDR by law and the central bank could not legally uncouple it.

"This shakes confidence in the dinar if the central bank admits openly it is doing something illegal," Fanek told Reuters. "The dinar is now effectively floating."

Shukri said foreign reserves had fallen, despite a narrower 1987 trade deficit of JD 25 million, partly because remittances from Jordanians abroad had declined.

The fall was also because the government had reduced foreign debt.

"We repaid much more than we borrowed or drew on our foreign loans, at the expense of our reserves," Shukri said.

"We succeeded in maintaining an excellent credit rating so that now we can borrow at the rates we want with no problem, while maintaining our debt ratio."

He said Jordan planned to go to the Euromarket soon for a loan in which the Arab Bank and other banks would be involved. He did not disclose the size of the loan, but banking sources quoted by Reuters said Jordan would seek a \$200 million.

Jordan's last international loan was a \$150 million credit signed in March 1987.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Activity on the Amman Financial Market for June 5, 1988.

	Number	Volume	Contracts
Regular market:	226528	JD 283957	295
Top three companies:			
Arah Aluminium Manufacturing	63400	JD 107423	30
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	16100	JD 20567	34
Jordan Sulphochemicals	6750	JD 16409	35
Parallel market:	73492	JD 35172	—
Development bonds:	—	—	—
Treasury bills & bonds:	—	—	—
Other debentures:	—	—	—

Saudi Cairo Bank lowers provisions, trims losses

RIYADH (R) — Saudi Cairo Bank, supported by a government rescue package after a series of financial problems, said Sunday it had cut 1987 losses by more than 44 per cent.

The Jeddah-based bank said it trimmed the year's net loss to 33.2 million riyals (\$8.9 million) from 59.7 million (\$16 million) in 1986, the largest ever deficit declared by a bank operating in Saudi Arabia.

Saudi Cairo is the last of the kingdom's nine joint-venture banks to report 1987 earnings, a year in which several showed a marked improvement after a four-year cycle of slumping profits.

The governor of the Saudi central bank was quoted Sunday as saying business confidence was returning to the kingdom and although banks were still setting aside provisions against bad and doubtful debts they had begun to step up new lending.

Hamad Al Sayari, head of the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency, told the Jeddah-based Arab

News capital was also being brought back from abroad after last October's world stock market crash.

Bnt Saudi Cairo's audited results, published in the local press, showed underlying operating income last year dipped 17 per cent to 448.4 million riyals (\$120 million).

The reduced losses were due to a fall in loan loss provisions to just 14.5 million riyals (\$3.9 million) from 114.0 million (\$30.4 million) in 1986.

The state-owned Public Investment Fund is injecting 300 million riyals (\$80 million) into the bank to double its capital in a rescue package.

This dilutes the shareholding of Saudi Cairo's foreign partner Banque Du Caire to 20 per cent from 40 per cent.

The bank's troubles began in the early 1980s when it suffered losses after speculating in precious metals. Bank officials said later a large part of its loan portfolio had gone sour and it declared zero profit for 1985.

Turkey halts credit to Iraq

ANKARA (R) — Turkey will not issue fresh trade credits for a few years to Iraq which had a debt of \$2.7 billion with Ankara at the end of last year, the semi-official Anatolian News Agency reported Sunday.

Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul-Rahim Al Chalabi is expected in Ankara next Thursday and Friday for trade talks, it said.

"During the talks there will be no agreement to increase credits. No new credits for Iraq will be opened for a few years," Yavuz Canevi, undersecretary for treasury and foreign trade, was quoted as saying.

Canevi said two-way trade this year with Iraq, which supplies a third of Turkey's oil requirements, could reach the 1987 level of \$2.1 billion. "Trade between the countries is at a sufficient level," he added.

Turkish Finance Minister Kurtcebe Altuntemcin, quoted by Anatolian, said in Baghdad on April 3 that Turkey has suspended new trade credits to Iraq until the end of 1988. But he said letters of credit issued before April 1 would be valid.

"Letters of credit have been temporarily stopped so as to examine our accounts," he said at the time.

Egypt anticipates record revenue from Suez Canal

CAIRO (R) — Egypt expects to earn a record \$1.292 billion from Suez Canal tolls in 1988, up from \$1.222 billion in 1987, the government-owned Al Akhbar newspaper said Sunday.

The newspaper, quoting Suez Canal Authority Chairman Ezzat

Adel, said the 195-kilometre canal earned \$539 million in the first five months of 1988.

Adel said a cut in tolls for long-haul bulk carriers since April last year had brought extra revenue to the canal, despite the Gulf war and fewer oil exports.

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Analysts expect row between Arab oil countries and Iran

BAHRAIN (R) — OPEC's Gulf Arab states will carry the Gulf oil battlefront to Vienna this week to defeat an Iranian push to raise oil prices. Gulf-based oil analysts said.

"Sitting on huge oil reserves and opposing Iran in the Gulf war, the Saudis and other Gulf Arab states are in no hurry to push prices up," an oil industry executive said.

The sources said Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates would confront Iran on every issue at Saturday's OPEC meeting in Vienna.

The OPEC ministers will discuss prices, output quotas, and proposals to cut production. A meeting in April to discuss a joint OPEC and non-OPEC agreement on output cuts failed.

The four Gulf states and non-OPEC members Bahrain and Oman are united as members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and support Iraq in the Gulf war.

One oil analyst said most Gulf states still feared a spillover of the Gulf war and the Iranian revolution.

"They (the Gulf Arab states) will simply carry the Gulf battlefront to Vienna... and this will not help OPEC address any of its problems," an oil analyst said.

Forming a bloc
But following major developments in the Gulf during 1988 the Arab Gulf states are anxious to form a bloc within OPEC that will prevent Iran from getting more cash from increased oil prices to fuel its war effort.

Relations between Tehran and Riyadh, which had worked together in December 1986 to boost sagging oil prices, soured after the Mecca riots last year and the two now lead opposing camps within OPEC.

Iran, hard-pressed for cash to finance its war with Iraq, wants to boost prices by cutting the group's output, while Saudi Arabia believes prices will rise if OPEC members stick to their quotas.

Analysts said recent developments have boosted the need for cohesion between the Arab Gulf states, both within and outside OPEC.

The analysts said any discord within the GCC may tempt Iran to stir up trouble again during the Haj.

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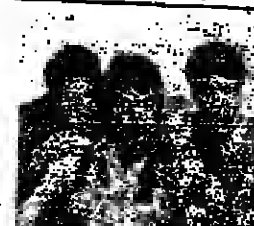


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SPORTS IN BRIEF

Born praises Jordanian team

AMMAN (J.T.) — Hans Born, the secretary general of the International Indoor Cycling Commission (CIS) Saturday left Amman for West Germany after attending the Royal Jordanian Kiorder Festival for Cycle Soccer which was held under the patronage of Ali Gbandour, the chairman and executive president of the Royal Jordanian. In a pre-departure statement, Born praised the Royal Jordanian Cycling team indicating that during the past year it made "marvellous progress." And he hoped "sports will continue to flourish in Jordan."

Wales beats Italy 1-0

BRESCIA, Italy (R) — Ian Rush led Wales to a 1-0 victory over a shocked Italy in a soccer friendly Saturday in the Italian's last warm-up game for the European Championship finals. Wales came to Italy as the underdogs after failing to qualify for the European finals but by playing a tight defensive game they frustrated the home side's numerous attempts to score. The visitors threw almost all their men into defence during much of the first half until a throw-in into the Italian half by Pat van den Hauwe in the 37th minute. Rush, showing more determination than he displayed during his first season for Italian club Juventus, collected the ball and turned from a seemingly impossible tight position behind defender Giuseppe Bergomi to send the ball into the net way beyond the reach of goalkeeper Walter Zenga. It was Italy's first international defeat for more than six months and came ahead of a tough opening match against hosts West Germany in the championship Friday.

E. Germans make it double win

EAST BERLIN (R) — Dynamo Berlin, soccer league champions for the 10th season on the trot, clinched the double for the first time Saturday when they won the East German Cup final with two goals in extra time against Carl Zeiss Jena. International striker Thomas Doll capitalised on a defensive foul-up in the 22nd minute of extra time when he slipped free and scored from the wing. Late substitute Michael Schultz slotted home the second goal five minutes later with a swift break as Jena pushed everyone forward in an attempt to equalise. An unusually large crowd of 40,000 turned up for the game, Jena, who have won the cup four times before, dominated much of the first 90 minutes, but failed to convert their numerous chances into goals.

Thompson disappoints fans

DERBY, England (AP) — Olympic decathlon champion Daley Thompson disappointed a 3,000-

strong crowd Saturday when he failed to appear in the pole vault competition at the HFC UK Bank Championships. Many of the crowd braved cold, wet conditions to witness what would have been Thompson's first British Championship appearance in six years. Thompson's coach Frank Dick, who did attend the meet, said: "I can only assume that Daley saw what the weather conditions were like and did not want to run the risk of injury by vaulting in those conditions." Spokesman for the meet Tony Ward, said: "We are obviously disappointed, especially on behalf of the Derby crowd, that Daley was unable to come. We haven't heard from him but when we last checked, Thursday he indicated that he would be competing."

Russian sets record of season

JENA, East Germany (R) — Veteran Soviet triple jumper Gennadiy Valuykevich set the best mark of the season so far with a 17.44 metre effort at an East German athletics meeting Saturday. A following wind aided Valuykevich's winning leap, the fifth best mark of the season set at the two-day Jena event. East German athletes, signalling their excellent form in Olympic year, established the other four marks and produced a string of fine results at the Jena event, one of a series of selection meetings for Seoul. On Saturday, Gabi Reinsch beat the twice world champion Martina Hellmann in the discus with a final throw of 71.64 metres, slotting her into 12th place in the all-time list.

Cottee sails into record books

SYDNEY (R) — Australian yachtswoman Kay Cottee sailed into the record books Sunday when she completed the first non-stop solo circumnavigation by a woman, organisers said. Cottee, a 34-year-old boatbuilder, ended her six-month voyage in Sydney harbour surrounded by a flotilla of small craft. Since starting out last Nov. 29 in the 37-foot (12-metre) yacht she built herself, Cottee had had no physical contact with another boat or person. To comply with the rules governing such a voyage — established by the Guinness Book of Records — the vessel had to cross the Equator and enter the Northern Hemisphere.

Ioka retains WBC title

OSAKA, Japan (AP) — Hiroki Ioka of Japan retained his World Boxing Council (WBC) straw-weight title Sunday with a draw against Thai challenger Napa Kaitwanchai. Kaitwanchai landed a series of punches in the 12th and final round that set Ioka staggering. Referee Boh Logist of Belgium stopped the fight once after Ioka, reeling, lost his mouthpiece.

TRACK AND FIELD

Deloach romps to victory in 100-metre race

EUGENE, Oregon (R) — Joe Deloach ran the 100 metres in 10.03 seconds, the fastest over the distance in the world this year, at the U.S. National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Championships Saturday.

Deloach, one of Carl Lewis's training partners, stunned defending champion Raymond Stewart of Jamaica as he improved his personal best by an impressive 18-hundredths of a second. The performance wrested the 1988 world lead from Lewis, who has run 10.05 this season.

Stewart, the World Championships bronze medalist, closed on the quick-starting Deloach about 60 metres into the race but could not overtake him and finished second in 10.10. Other highlights of the final day of the collegiate championships included Danny Everett's time of 44.52 seconds in the 400 metres, a high jump of 2.33 metres by fellow-American Tom Smith and Gail Devers' wind-aided 100 metres of 10.86 seconds.

Everett, a top contender for the U.S. Olympic team, edged fellow-American Steve Lewis, who was second in 44.83 seconds. Both also ran on the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) 1,600 metres relay team that clocked 2:59.91, the fastest ever by a U.S. collegiate squad. Devers used an aiding wind of 2.96 metres per second for her fast time in the 100 metres. She wasn't as fortunate in the 100 metre hurdles, hitting the eighth hurdle with her trail leg and fading to third place.

Devers, the U.S. co-record holder in the 100 metres hurdles at 12.61 seconds, was timed to 12.90 seconds Saturday with fellow American Lynda Tolbert the winner in 12.82 seconds.

Favoured Anhur Blake wasn't even a finisher in the 110-metre hurdles. The U.S. Olympic hopeful hit the first hurdle and stop-

ped as fellow-American James Purvis went on to win in 13.58 seconds.

Canadian Edrick Floreal won the triple jump with a wind-aided performance of 17.19 metres and American Sheila Hudson recorded the best ever women's triple jump in the United States, a wind-aided 13.92 metres.

American Rochelle Stevens outdueled compatriot Mailec Malone in the women's 400 metres, winning in 51.23 seconds to Malone's 51.32 seconds.

Sweden's Mikael Olander won the decathlon with 8,021 points and compatriot Stefan Jonsson was first in the hammer throw with a best of 71.08 metres.

Kristiansen wins 10-kilometre race

In New York, Norwegian Ingrid Kristiansen pulled away from a top field of distance runners Saturday to win the L'Espresso 10-km road race and stamp herself as the woman to beat in the 10,000 metres at the Seoul Olympics.

She took a 60-metre lead with a four-minute 54-second first mile in the race in New York's Central Park, and was never challenged. Defending champion Australian Lisa Martin (32:04) edged out 35-year-old American Clancy Francie Larner Smith (32:10) for second.

Mary Decker Slaney continued her athletic comeback and despite a lack of road-racing experience apparent on Central Park's turns came in fourth in 32:18. Kristiansen (31:31) had a 33-second margin over Martin at the halfway point.

Wilander lifts French Open title with straight sets win

PARIS (R) — Mats Wilander of Sweden took his third French Open men's singles title Sunday with a surprisingly easy straight sets victory over Henri Leconte of France.

Wilander, playing virtually faultless tennis to wrap up a 7-5, 6-2, 6-1 win in one hour and 52 minutes, took complete control after an early flurry of service breaks gave the Frenchman a chance to serve for the first set at 5-4.

With the 16,500-strong crowd fervently hoping for a repeat of the 1983 final when Wilander lost to popular favourite Yannick Noah of France, Leconte appeared to crack under the pressure.

"It was very important for Henri to win the first set," Wilander said. "He looked like he felt a lot of pressure. He needed to relax."

Leconte, who played well in a highly entertaining first set, said: "I'm very disappointed. I couldn't play the game I'd like to have played. It was Mats who made me play hard — that's the strength of his game."

But Leconte won a cheer from the crowd when he picked up his tense.

Wilander, who also has three Australian Open titles, has now won the French Open three times, at three-year intervals. His previous victories came in 1982 and 1985.

Leconte, probably bothered by gusting winds, was misfiring badly and was clearly finding it difficult to cope with the Swede's.



Mats Wilander

persistent accuracy and virtually error-free play.

The ease and swiftness of the match invited comparisons with Saturday's women's final when West German world number one Steffi Graf crushed Soviet teenager Natalia Zvereva 6-0, 6-0 in just 34 minutes.

After accepting his cup, Wilander said: "I know Steffi Graf said she was sorry it was short, I'm not sorry at all. I'm very happy."

Wilander said he had been too defensive in the early stages of the match but had turned the game decisively in his favour when he elected to attack more.

From that point Leconte was unable to find his usual array of winners and his shots were landing all too predictably in the net or way beyond the baseline.

Lakers to meet Pistons

LOS ANGELES (R) — James Worthy scored 14 of his 28 points in the decisive third quarter Saturday to lead the Los Angeles Lakers into the National Basketball Association (NBA) finals for the seventh time in nine years.

Los Angeles soundly defeated the Dallas Mavericks 117-102 in the seventh game of their best-of-seven Western Conference finals.

The Lakers won all four games on their home court as the Mavericks post-season record at the Los Angeles forum dropped to 0-10. The Lakers will face the Eastern Conference champion De-

troit Pistons in the best-of-seven NBA Championship series beginning on June 7, as Los Angeles attempts to become the first team to successfully defend their title since the Boston Celtics in 1969.

The Mavericks refused to allow the fast-breaking Lakers to build a large early lead and had erased an eight-point deficit by the end of the first quarter.

The Lakers, who will be looking for their sixth championship and fifth of the decade, finished the Mavericks off by ending the game with a 15-16 burst.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

By Charles H. Goren & Omar Sharif

Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ 3 AKJ1052 ♠ 94 AKJ3

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

What action do you take?

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ KQ7 ♠ 853 A9832 ♠ J6

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

3 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ J543 ♠ Q6 ♠ 853 AKJ5

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?

What do you bid now?

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ A3 ♠ A8 ♠ KJ102 ♠ A985

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 NT Pass 3 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?

Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ 83 ♠ 75 QJ63 ♠ AJ1052

The bidding has proceeded:

West North East South

1 ♠ Dbl Pass 2 ♠

What do you bid now?

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ K72 ♠ 95 KQJ1052 ♠ 83

Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, JUNE 6, 1988

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES:

Work on bringing your ideas down to a more practical, workable level.

Business matters should take precedence when scheduling the coming week. Don't allow yourself to be distracted by recreation.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Others will be more than willing to assist you if you present your plans in a logical manner. With a little effort, you can make big headway.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Avoid a superior who is in an ill frame of mind, and is looking for a scapegoat. Be tactful in pursuing a personal goal, and all will go well.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Follow through with any plans you made during the weekend. Be careful what you say to a friend, or you could hurt this person's feelings.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Don't hesitate to state your intentions to good friends, and they can be very helpful to you. Be more willing to listen to others.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Be sure to keep any promises you have made recently. Show more devotion to your mate than usual, and create more harmony in your abode.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 21) Contact an associate early today, and

come to a fine agreement on a project you have been discussing. Keep out of the public eye if possible.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Instead of going off on some crazy tangent, stick to your work today.

If you are scheduling a trip, pay special attention to details.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Get started on that new project you thought about during the weekend. You would be wise to stay at home with your mate this evening.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Don't try to force your opinions on anyone, or a big argument will follow. Entertain some gentle and tactful friends in your home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Although you are tempted to make some quick and radical changes in business, you would regret doing so. Be sure to drive carefully.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) If a superior gives you some advice, you would be wise to follow it. Concentrate on improving your efficiency, so you will have more free time.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Your mate has some great ideas which can improve the quality of life for you both, so listen to this person. Keep all secrets confidential.

THE Daily Crossword by Harvey Chyka

ACROSS

- 1 Pounding instrument
- 7 Art school
- 11 Gym pad
- 14 Turning machine
- 15 Egg
- 16 According to
- 17 Willow
- 18 Pacific bird
- 19 Middle: abbr.
- 20 Duration
- 21 Dog in
- 24 Sea eagles
- 26 Type of term
- 27 Denial
- 30 Posed
- 32 Misbehavior
- 33 Strange
- 34 Woodland daffodil
- 37 Coral ridge
- 40 Very important
- 42 Fertilized
- 44 Olla's friend
- 45 Held in check
- 47 Country letters
- 48 Tennis item
- 50 May Day
- 51 Associative
- 53 "Icicle" born
- 55 Haunts
- 57 Cave "icicle"
- 60 Yield
- 64 Up (dress)
- 65 Fratricide
- 66 Marauder
- 68 Before
- 69 Fleuret
- 70 Afro or base
- 71 Legal thing
- 72 Swivel
- 73 Arab chieftain

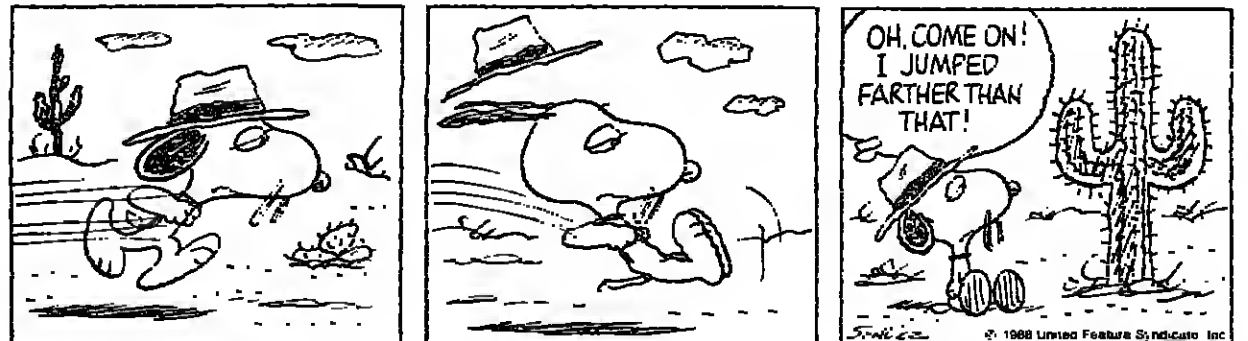
DOWN

- 1 Scheme
- 2 Abate
- 3 To-do
- 4 Month
- 5 Gentle sea
- 6 God
- 7 Gar. city
- 8 "You" —
- 9 State firmly
- 10 Sahara region
- 11 Rapid-fire weapon
- 12 Change
- 13 Not on time
- 22 Snuggles up
- 23 Landmark alone heap
- 25 Remannder
- 27 Police
- 28 Work on copy
- 29 Benefits
- 31 Passage
- 35 Swivel
- 36 Sault — Marie
- 38 Other
- 39 Terror
- 41 Scheme
- 43 Otiose
- 44 Antiseptic
- 45 Kind of bull
- 52 Of singing birds
- 53 Fall flower
- 54 Amass
- 56 Rhymed writing
- 58 Sleeveless garment
- 59 Even
- 61 Rite
- 62 Antlered animal
- 63 Flute
- 67 Intent

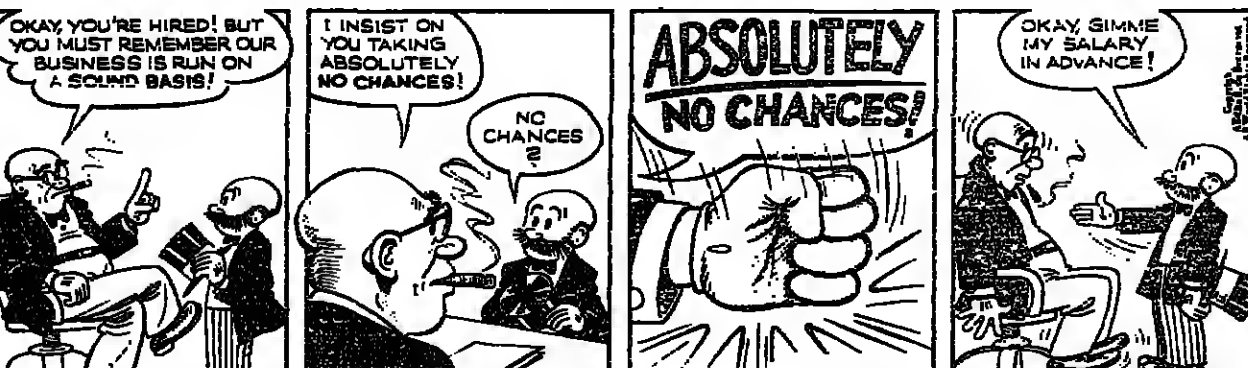
Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

QUASS JAMES ARMA
BERRY GUYT BIAS
SODORNAME BEST
ONE RIVER EST
SIGHTS CHURCHES
GER RINA BARS
ROD RINDS ARRO
HOMEREDYORRASH
SIGHTS RIVERS KEY
SIGHTS RIVERS KEY
DEMORING DEPOSE
ERA SPAN ROR
BOTS CHURCHES
ALERT ROR ROR
BARS RIVER RIVERS

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF By Harris



"You shouldn't let your wife record six hours of Julia Child on one tape! Your VCR has indigestion!"

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ROLED

TYTUP

FELBAF

PLECOM

HE CALLED HIMSELF "ADULT," BUT OTHERS CALLED HIM THIS.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: "O O O O O O O O"

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: QUEER OPIUM ATTAIN DEPICT

Answer: What the pioneer got when he tried to be fresh with the waitress—"PIE IN EAR"

Ershad defends Islamisation

DHAKA (Agencies) — President Hossain Mohammad Ershad defended his plans to make Islam the state religion of Bangladesh, rejecting the claims of critics who say it will tend towards fundamentalism.

"Islam never retards any aspect of social progress or encourages fundamentalism," he told a meeting of the ruling Jatiya Party Saturday night.

"My government neither subscribes to fundamentalism nor is it dogmatic or reactionary."

Ershad made the remarks after nearly 500 opposition politicians, lawyers, teachers, journalists, workers and other professionals staged a rally in Dhaka Saturday to protest against the Islamic bill now being debated in parliament.

In the last week of May about 2,000 members of Bangladesh Minority groups staged a noisy demonstration in Dhaka aimed at blocking the bill.

The minorities, including Hindus, Christians and Buddhists, said making Islam the state religion in Bangladesh would be the world's third largest Muslim country after Indonesia and Pakistan, would jeopardise communal harmony.

But Ershad said Saturday that Bangladesh was free from inter-faith rivalry. "People from all faiths live like brothers and sisters."

Major opposition parties have denounced the move as unnecessary and aimed only at diverting people's attention from economic and other problems.

The demonstrators carried banners reading, "We do not accept state interference in individual's rights." "Ershad must go" and "no politics with religion."

Ershad's government May 11 proposed a constitutional amendment that would make Islam the state religion. More than 85 per cent of Bangladesh's 105 million people are Muslim.

The proposed amendment also says other religions may be practiced "in peace and harmony" in the country.

But the bill, currently being debated in parliament, has drawn sharp criticism. Opposition politicians and women's groups contend it would undercut fundamental freedoms.

Ershad's Jatiya Party holds 213 out of 300 seats in the parliament and could force the legislation through, but several senior government officials have suggested that a public referendum may be called on the issue.

Christian leaders in Bangladesh expressed concern over the proposal and urged the government to withdraw the bill.

"Whenever religion becomes a concern of the state, it passes into the hands of political powers," the religious leaders said in a



Hossain Mohammad Ershad

statement published Saturday in the English-language New Nation newspaper.

Among the signers was the Reverend Michael Rozario, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Dhaka. Others represented the Baptists, the National Christian Fellowship and other Protestant denominations.

There are an estimated 250,000 Christians in Bangladesh. The other minority groups are Hindus

and Buddhists.

Ershad has been the target of an opposition campaign to oust him since last November.

The country's largest opposition coalition, led by Sheikh Hasina of the Awami League, said it would launch a five-day national protest against the proposed amendment starting Sunday.

Some political analysts in Dhaka have said they believe Ershad launched the campaign on Islam to win the support of Muslim fundamentalists.

Several conservative Muslim groups have campaigned to make Bangladesh an Islamic republic and to change its legal system to one that follows the Koran.

Bangladesh has been a secular state since it was created after a war of independence from Pakistan in 1971.

Bangladesh violence

Four people have been machine-gunned to death in southern Bangladesh where a tribal campaign for autonomy has so far claimed more than 1,500 lives, officials said.

Soviets celebrate Christian millennium

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The Russian Orthodox Church, whose bells were long silent under communism, Sunday formally celebrated the millennium of Christianity in what is now the Soviet Union.

The church's spiritual leader, Patriarch Pimen, was due to conduct a festive mass in Moscow's Epiphany Cathedral attended by hundreds of visiting foreign churchmen and senior Russian church officials.

The celebrations mark the passage of 1,000 years since the pagan state of Rus was converted to Christianity by Prince Vladimir in 988.

With the bells of holy Russia ringing out this week, believers hope for a new era of religious tolerance but dissidents fear the celebrations will merely be a spectacle.

Since Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev came to power in 1985, there has been a change in the official approach to religion, although largely of tone rather than substance.

Believers flocked to the pale blue and gold Epiphany Cathedral for the regular evening service

Saturday, knowing that Sunday the church would be packed with officials and foreigners.

"I decided to come tonight because I know it will be busy tomorrow," said Anastasia Konstantinova, a humble old lady bundled in scarf and shawl despite the summer heat.

Such women, many of whom lovingly mop marble church floors and clean out the guttering candles which pile up before the icons, are the mainstay of the Russian Orthodox Church.

The high point of the celebrations will be a service next Sunday, All Saints' Day, in the Trinity Cathedral of Moscow's Danilov Monastery, which last week received President Reagan.

There will also be a general council of bishops, only the third such gathering permitted by the state since World War II.

Dissidents say the church was decimated when the late dictator Josef Stalin and his successor Nikita Khrushchev closed thousands of churches. Since 1985, the state has returned 35 buildings to the Orthodox Church.

U.S. meets Panama opposition

PANAMA CITY (R) — A U.S. State Department official met here with leaders of the opposition to General Manuel Antonio Noriega, a week after talks between the military leader and Washington broke down, opposition sources said Saturday.

Morton Abramowitz, assistant secretary of state for intelligence and research, met for two hours Friday with leaders of the opposition parties and the Civic Crusade coalition of Business and Labour Groups, the sources said.

They said the meeting was geared to allow both sides to "exchange impressions" about the problems facing the opposition to Noriega, who has defied months of U.S.-backed political and economic pressure to step down.

Last week the United States said month-long talks between U.S. envoy Michael Kozak and Noriega advisors had collapsed and accused Noriega of backing out at the last minute of a deal to leave power in exchange for the lifting of drug indictments against him and economic sanctions against Panama.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said new talks were not foreseen.

A spokesman for one of the opposition leaders who attended the meeting said Abramowitz told them they could expect some sort of reaction from Washington this week, but he declined to be more specific.

The U.S. embassy had no comment on the visit. The State Department said in Washington it could not confirm or deny that a U.S. official spoke with Panamanian opposition leaders.

Abramowitz was still in Panama Saturday, opposition sources said.

The spokesman said opposition leaders asked Abramowitz specifically what points had caused the Kozak talks to break down.

But he said Abramowitz told them Noriega rejected the entire agreement, without specifying dissatisfaction with any particular negotiation point.

Noriega, however, said there was never any deal or even serious negotiations.

Dukakis blasts policy

Democratic frontrunner Michael Dukakis blasted President Reagan Saturday for failing to consult with Latin America's

democratically-elected leaders on U.S. efforts to oust Noriega from power in Panama.

Dukakis, the Massachusetts governor, told a news conference. "I know from my own consultations on this with Latin American leaders that there was no consultation of any significance between the administration and the democratically-elected chiefs of state."

Campaigning in New Jersey Dukakis linked the issue of Noriega, a former longtime U.S. ally, with his central campaign theme of family values.

"You can't be serious about a war against drugs, my friends, if you're in bed with drug-running Panamanian dictators," he said. "Is that the way to help the family?"

"Family is the most important institution in this nation and in our society," he told rally after rally Saturday.

"The single most important family policy in this country is something called full employment... good jobs and good wages for our people," he said in Cherry Hill.

Dukakis said his wife's surgery Friday in Boston had reminded him of the importance of the family.

Over 68 killed in Soviet blast

MOSCOW (AP) — A freight car exploded as a train approached a station east of the Soviet capital, killing more than 68 people, injuring hundreds more and throwing cars and trucks into the air like feathers, Izvestia reported Sunday.

The government newspaper said the accident occurred at exactly 9:30 a.m. (0630 GMT) Saturday, and that the blast was so powerful it broke windows a half a kilometre away.

It said the cause of the explosion was unknown, and gave no hint of what the freight car might have been carrying.

The blast occurred as the train neared the station in Arzamas, about 400 kilometres east of Moscow, Izvestia said.

"At its very epicentre were trucks and cars, which were waiting for the train to pass," Izvestia said. "They were scattered about as though they were down."

As a result of the explosion, Izvestia said, "More than 68 people were killed, and hundreds were wounded."

More than 80 doctors were airlifted by helicopter to the accident site from the Regional Centre of Gorky, Izvestia said.

The explosion destroyed nearby homes and businesses, set off small fires in many places, derailed other freight cars and damaged the rails, Izvestia said. The locomotive was flipped end over end and landed beside the tracks, the newspaper said.

A special government commission was created under the deputy chairman of the council of ministers, Gennady G. Vedernikov, to determine the causes of the explosion and deal with the consequences. Vedernikov's high position indicated the seriousness of the accident.

"A thorough investigation is being conducted into the causes of the explosion," Vedernikov said. "I cannot yet say anything about the results."

Controversy grows in mine accident

BORKEN, West Germany (AP) — Rescuers Sunday found the bodies of eight more miners killed in a coal mine blast, as residents gathered to remember the victims of West Germany's worst mining accident in 26 years.

The discovery came one day after six miners were found alive in the explosion-ravaged shafts.

The memorial service was held as a controversy grew over whether rescue teams failed to respond to radio contact made by the six rescued men.

"It is good that we come together in our pain and pray in this hard, unbearably hard situation," the Reverend Ernst Siegfried Krueckeborg told more than 350 people who gathered in Borken's Lutheran Church for services Sunday morning. Many of the people were Turks, related to Turkish immigrants who work in the mine.

The discovery of the eight bodies brought the death toll to 45. The search continued Sunday afternoon for six miners missing since the Wednesday explosion.

Peter Carl Ruesland, a spokesman for Preussen Elektra, the company that owns the mine, said the bodies were found during search efforts early Sunday.

So far, 37 bodies have been brought to the surface, he said.

On Saturday, one of the six rescued Saturday said rescuers had made radio contact with them three days before they finally were found.

Autopsy belies claim that Kanaks 'butchered' troops

PARIS (AP) — A report Saturday said autopsies showed four gendarmes died from gunshot wounds in New Caledonia during an attack by separatists and that none of the officers was hacked to death.

Early reports by the French government on the April 22 attack, which came in the midst of presidential campaigning in France, claimed that separatists had mutilated and hacked the officers to death in the French Pacific island territory.

Excerpts from the autopsy report, published in the French daily Le Monde, said the four gendarmes died from injuries received from "different types of firearms."

The separatists attacked a remote police station on the island

of Ouvea, northeast of the main island of New Caledonia. Gendarmes are a French police force under military control.

Shortly after the attack, Bernard Pons, then minister for overseas territories, said the gendarmes had been felled by "hatchet and sabre blows."

The Melanesian separatists, known as Kanaks, took 22 hostages in the attack that was the start of a nearly two-week standoff between the kidnappers and French authorities.

On May 5, three days before presidential voting, a French military commando unit attacked an island cave where the hostages were being held, killing 19 Melanesians and freeing the hostages.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

7 killed in world's deepest gold mine

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Rescuers found the bodies of four miners Saturday, bringing the death toll from a rock-burst in the world's deepest gold mine to seven. The bursting of the rock, which is caused by underground earthquakes or tremendous pressures at great depths, occurred Friday night 2,000 metres beneath the surface at Western Deep Levels gold mine. Three bodies were recovered immediately, and rescue operations continued until the rest were found Saturday evening. A spokesman for the mine owner, Anglo American Corporation, said the victims' next of kin had not yet been notified. The rock-burst occurred in the western shaft, one of two shafts at Western Deep Levels that extend more than 4,000 metres underground.

Study says videos affect pregnancy

NEW YORK (AP) — A study of nearly 1,600 pregnant women found that those who used video display terminals (VDTs) for more than 20 hours each week in the first three months of pregnancy suffered almost twice as many miscarriages as women who did not, according to a published report. The findings did not necessarily mean that the terminals themselves had caused the miscarriages, said the authors of the study, researchers at the Kaiser-Permanente Medical Care Programme in Oakland, California. The New York Times reported in its Sunday editions that such unmeasured factors as job-related stress and poor working conditions could also have been responsible. The results of the study appear in the June issue of the American Journal of Industrial Medicine. The researchers called for more elaborate studies. Some experts have suggested that low-level electromagnetic radiation from VDTs may be able to alter or disrupt cellular development. The researchers surveyed 1,583 pregnant women in northern California.

Oil slick threatens beaches

FERNANDINA BEACH, Florida (AP) — A dredge vessel sank in a river channel Saturday and was leaking thousands of liters of oil that spread out into the Atlantic ocean and inland where it threatens beaches and sensitive marshlands, officials said. The vessel was dredging a river channel near ocean in northern Florida when waves crashed over its bow, causing it to flood and sink, said Captain Robert O'Pezio of the U.S. Coast Guard, the on-scene coordinator. Seven crew members from the dredge were plucked from the water as it sank near the entrance to the 15-metre-deep channel. The ship held 151,000 litres of diesel fuel and was leaking about 1,900 litres an hour.

Colombia president cancels U.S. trip

BOGOTA (R) — Colombian President Virgilio Barco Vargas Saturday cancelled a trip to the United States due to a political crisis stemming from the week-old kidnapping of a prominent politician, Alvaro Gomez Hurtado. Barco rushed home Friday and met Saturday with his cabinet and security council following visits last week through Portugal, Spain and Italy. Barco had been preparing to leave Sunday for a visit to the United States where he would meet President Reagan and address a United Nations general assembly session on disarmament. But he decided Saturday to cancel his trip and send Colombian Foreign Minister Julio Londoño Paredes instead, a presidential statement said. Authorities said they have no clue as to Gomez' whereabouts. The country's leftist guerrilla groups and so-called Medellin Cartel of drug barons, both known to kidnap popular personalities, have denied responsibility for the crime.

16 killed in Zimbabwean wreck

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — A bus collided with a freight train at a railroad crossing near the capital, killing 16 people and injuring 56, police said Sunday. A police spokesman, speaking on condition of anonymity, said nine bus passengers died late Saturday when the bus smashed into the train about 20 kilometres west of Harare. Seven others died at Parirenyatwa hospital in Harare and 56 people were hurt in the wreck, nine of them seriously, he said. One railroad worker aboard the train was among the injured.



Cartoonist in trouble over Di T-shirt

BALI (R) — An Indonesian cartoonist who sold T-shirts showing Britain's Princess Diana topless will be charged with selling obscene pictures, police said Saturday. They said Tony Tantra, 32, who owns a souvenir shop on the resort island of Bali, told them he had not realised selling the T-shirts was illegal. He said the pictures of Princess Diana, the wife of Prince Charles, heir to the British throne, were works of art and not meant to humiliate the royal family.

Swedish men protest prostitution

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Dozens of men marched Friday in a central Stockholm area frequented by streetwalkers in an all-male demonstration against prostitution. "This time we have chosen the gentle approach," said Bo Lundberg, who handed out leaflets to male passers-by. Lundberg, a social worker, said men have to say "no" to prostitution if people want to create a basis for an equal society. "Prostitution is mainly a male problem. But the discussion tends to focus on the victims — in other words, the women," he said.

Saudi jewels recovered

BRASILIA (R) — Brazilian police have recovered almost all of the \$800,000 in jewels and cash stolen from the Saudi embassy in Brasilia and have arrested one suspect, police said Saturday. They said authorities had recovered 95 per cent of the jewels stolen Tuesday from Ambassador Abdullah Saleh Habibis' residence, which is inside the embassy. The robbery made headlines in Brasilia and so worried President Jose Sarney that he ordered police to hire 1,000 new men charged with giving special protection to the diplomatic corps, officials said. Police arrested and charged Flavio Alves, who then led authorities to a stolen car with the jewels in its trunk.

Man takes profitable stroll

BRIGHTON (R) — A man on a strolling found cocaine worth up to four million pounds sterling (seven million dollars), washed up on a beach near Brighton in southern England Saturday, police said. The 11 packets of cocaine weighed one kilogramme each. Police said smugglers may have jettisoned the packets at sea and they were watching the beach to see if more turned up.

Lost Donizetti opera found

LONDON (AP) — The missing second act of a lost opera by Gaetano Donizetti has been found in the Royal Opera House cellars, four years after the first and third acts were unearthed there, the Sunday Times reported. The weekly said the manuscript of "Elisabeth" was discovered last week by Australian Richard Bonyne, who is conducting his wife, Dame Joan Sutherland, in Donizetti's "Anna Bolena" at the opera house. The report quoted him as saying he made the discovery "absolutely by chance in an old stack of ballet rubbish" while looking through the cellars. Donizetti, who lived from 1797 to 1848, composed the work in 1838, setting it in Russia and telling of a young woman's walk from Siberia to Moscow to try to win her father's freedom from exile.

Auction helps Great Wall

PEKING (AP) — Sotheby's auctioneers racked up nearly half a million U.S. dollars in sales Sunday at their first auction in China. Organisers said the profits would go to renovate a kilometre of the Great Wall. "It's super," auctioneer Julian Thompson, chairman of Sotheby's International, said after 73 Chinese and Western works of modern art and rare objects brought in a total of 1.76 million yuan (\$475,850). After auction costs of about 100,000 dollars are paid, half the remaining money is to go toward renovating the crumbling Great Wall and half toward projects to save the Italian city of Venice, which is sinking beneath the waters of the Adriatic Sea.

TENDER NOTICE NO. TCC 3/88

Issued by the
"Special Tender Committee"
For the Tenders Related to the
Five-Year Plan of the
Telecommunications Corporation
(TCC)



The "Special Tender Committee" (STC) for the Tenders related to the five-year plan of the Telecommunications Corporation announces Tender No. TCC 3/88 for the supply and installation of Digital Switching Equipments as part of the Implementation Programme of the Five-Year Development Plan to expand the Telephone Network in Jordan.

This tender is divided into the following four (4) main lots:

- 1- Supply and installation of new large and small digital switching nodes including a combined National and International Switching Centre.
- 2- Expansion and modification of the existing switching network.
- 3- Supply and installation of power systems, air-conditioning and fire alarm equipments.
- 4- Supply and installation of standby diesel generators.

Bidders may bid for one or more or all lots. "STC" reserves the right to award one or more or all lots to any bidder provided that the offer to each lot is complete and comprehensive. Incomplete offers for any lot will be rejected.

Specialised companies are hereby invited to submit their bids in accordance with terms, stipulations and technical specifications contained in the Bidding Documents. Bidders are requested to submit in addition to bid price a financing proposal to finance the foreign exchange component cost of the subsequent contract to be awarded.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Bidders are requested to submit their offers in three separately sealed envelopes:
The first containing the technical offer.
The second containing the commercial offer.
The third containing the financing offer.
Each envelope should be sealed and clearly marked indicating the name of the bidder, Tender No. and the title of the offer.
Technical offers will be opened and evaluated first. Commercial and financing offers for technically accepted offers will be then opened.

Bidding Documents may be obtained from the office of the Secretary of the "STC," TCC Headquarters, Tower Building, P.O. Box (1689) Amman - Jordan, against a payment of a non-refundable fee of five hundred Jordanian dinars (JD 500).

Bids, accompanied by a bid security, are to be submitted in English to the office of the secretary of the "STC" not later than 10:00 a.m. local time Sunday, Sept. 4, 1988 when the technical offers will be opened at the presence of bidders' representatives, who wish to attend, on the same date.

N.B. (1): The last date of purchasing tender documents is Aug. 28, 1988.

N.B. (2): Those who purchased the tender documents previously are exempted from purchasing the documents again, provided that they abide by the text of the tender invitation quoted above.

Chairman Special Tender Committee
Eng. Mohammad Shahid Ismail
Director General of TCC

TENDER NOTICE NO. TCC 4/88

Issued by the
"Special Tender Committee"
For the Tenders Related to the
Five Year Plan of the
Telecommunications Corporation
(TCC)



The "Special Tender Committee" (STC) for the tenders related to the five-year plan of the Telecommunications Corporation announces tender No. TCC 4/88 for the supply and installation of transmission equipment, as part of the implementation programme of the "five-year development plan" to expand the telephone network in Jordan.

This tender is divided into the following three (3) main lots:

- 1- Supply and installation of new transmission systems.
- 2- Redevelopment and expansion of some existing transmission systems (manufactured by TRT).
- 3- Redevelopment and expansion of some existing transmission systems (manufactured by NEC).

Specialised companies are hereby invited to submit their bids in accordance with the terms, stipulations and technical specifications contained in the bidding documents.

Bidders are requested to submit in addition to bid price a financing proposal to finance the foreign exchange portion of the cost of the subsequent contract to be awarded.

IMPORTANT NOTE:-

Bidders are requested to submit their offers in three (3) separately sealed envelopes:-
The first containing the technical offer.
The second containing the commercial offer.
The third containing the financing offer.
Each envelope should be sealed and clearly marked indicating the name of the bidder, tender no., and the title of the offer.

Technical offers will be opened and evaluated first. Commercial and financing offers for technically accepted offers will be then opened.

Bidding documents may be obtained from the office of the secretary of the "STC," TCC Headquarters, Tower Building, P.O. Box (1689), Amman - Jordan against a payment of a non-refundable fee of five hundred Jordanian dinars (JD 500).

Bids accompanied by a bid security, are to be submitted in English to the office of the secretary of the "STC" not later than 10:00 a.m. local time Sunday Aug. 21, 1988, when the technical offers will be opened at the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend on the same date.

N.B. (1)

The last date for purchasing tender documents is Aug. 14, 1988.

N.B. (2)

Those who purchased the tender documents previously are exempted from purchasing the documents again, provided that they abide by the text of the tender invitation quoted above.

Chairman, "Special Tender Committee"
Eng. Mohammad Shahid Ismail
Director General of TCC

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